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Five 'Prepared To Leave GATT' Over Subsidies

PY2211181090 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1720 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Foz do Iguacu, 22 Nov (REUTER)—According to sources at an interministerial meeting taking place in this city, the Governments of Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, Paraguay, and Chile are prepared to leave the GATT if the EC does not change its protectionistic agricultural policies.

This drastic decision will be included in a joint declaration being drawn up by the agriculture ministers of these five Southern Cone nations in this Brazilian border town.

Perez Opens Conference on Regional Integration

PA2111152590 Caracas Venezolana de Television Canal 8 in Spanish 1600 GMT 20 Nov 90

[Text] President Carlos Andres Perez this morning inaugurated a conference called "Toward A Great Latin American Nation," which is aimed at studying the bill for a Latin American constitution and seeking new political programs to replace the existing ones. Famous Latin American political experts and intellectuals are attending this conference.

After this conference was inaugurated, Doctor Arturo Uslar Pietre delivered a lecture entitled "Culture and Politics in Latin America's Future." This event was sponsored by the Simon Bolivar University and the Aristides (Calvani) International Studies Center.

[Begin Andrez Perez recording] A common past to remember, a common present to share, and a common future for which to struggle; this is the classical definition of a nation that we learned when we were young and which was attributed to [Joseph Ernest] Renan [French philologist and historian].

In addition, if these social and spiritual ideas take on a meaning or if one attributes to them a sense of belonging or an ideological value with which we identify, we will explain our common identity. In the measure that the material and ideological bonds of its members become stronger, our human group will become a very cohesive community. This real integration—in the economic, ideologiocal, and spiritual fields - of men who participate in complex networks of transactions, communications, and values is the foundation for the construction of a nation.

The integration projects that have been promoted by Latin American governments are aimed at regulating a liberalization of commercial exchange and, to some degree, of economic cooperation. Our mistake has been to limit ourselves in our own integrationist aspirations. Integration, in fact, has been a project of governments, bureaucracies, and governmental technocracies.

We have failed, however, to convene the active sectors of our societies—workers, businessmen, industrialists, peasants, professionals, and students—in the integration projects. By exclusively focusing on trade, we have unsuccessfully tried to reconcile our integrationist wishes with the protectionist policies in which each group wants to be excluded from integration, which is viewed by them as a threat to their own interests. [end recording]

Rodriguez, Other Presidents Confer in Tokyo

PY1711123690 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 13 Nov 90 p 12

[Text] Tokyo—President Andres Rodriguez held a special meeting with presidents of Brazil, Argentina, and Bolivia in Tokyo (Japan) after the enthronement of Emperor Akihito. The four Latin American presidents exchanged ideas on the integration programs being studied by their countries.

Rodriguez indicated that the meeting served to evaluate current integration projects aimed at consolidating the commercial and economic relations of the Southern Cone countries, and at making them more competitive with other economic blocs of the northern countries of the Americas, Europe, and Asia.

Rodriguez said: "I took advantage of this great opportunity when several Latin American presidents were together to discuss and evaluate future agreements because Latin American integration is absolutely necessary."

He expressed confidence in the integration process begun by the Latin American countries. He added that this "crusade" will provide a substantial political and economic benefit to the region.

He added: "I sincerely believe that we can better serve our country with the contacts I am making with my dear friend, Brazilian President Collor de Mello, and with Argentine President Carlos Menem, and Bolivian President Jaime Paz Zamora, and also with the presidents of the Central American countries."

President Rodriguez, who is planning to meet with Japanese officials to obtain the release of new credits, will return to our country on 17 November after fulfilling his agenda.

Cuba

Commentary Defends Hungarian Reporter's Expulsion

FL2211173990 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1255 GMT 22 Nov 90

["Our Opinion" commentary by Jose Armas; read by Roberto Canela]

[Text] Last Monday, the Cuban Foreign Ministry announced that it had decided to revoke the accreditation of Csaba Nagy as a correspondent in Havana. Nagy was a reporter for the Hungarian paper NEPSZABADSAG. The announcement was made in a brief note, proportionate with the situation, that simply gave the reasons for the decision. The Hungarian newsman had stated, in a libelous report published by his newspaper, that an Iraqi tanker had unloaded oil in Havana. It was clear—and one did not have to be a specialist to know this—that this was a crazy figment of his imagination. As the Cuban Foreign Ministry said, it was a lie that was the fruit of the correspondent's imagination for purposes that only he could explain.

It is very strange, however, to note how this episode has been magnified by the dirtiest anti-Cuban media based in the United States. Even more significant is the profuse circulation that those media have given to the lie reported by the correspondent, or perhaps by the pseudocorrespondent.

What would they have us believe? No one who is even half-way informed would be so obtuse as to consider such a fabrication with even the slightest degree of seriousness. Actually, this kind of infamous propaganda is aimed at two groups: cretins, and those who have something to gain from believing such shameful lies. Not even any responsible official of the U.S. Congress or a legislator, or any other personality, would pay attention—we imagine—to such stupidity, not just because the U.S. Government has more than enough resources with which to prove or disprove the veracity of a deed like the one reported, but also above all, because the U.S. authorities are well aware of the fact that Cuba complies, in an exemplary manner, with its commitments and the positions that it assumes within the Security Council or any other forum.

If the goal of the dirty anti-Cuban propaganda media, however, is to defend the correspondent at any cost, that is another matter. After all, they have already done this on other occasions in similar cases by aligning themselves on the same frequency with the so-called Inter-American Press Association, that spread absurdities and that has never raised its voice to defend true journalists from these lands.

In such case, Cuba has turned to its own laws. Article 115 of the Penal Code states verbatim: Anyone who disseminates false news reports for the purpose of disrupting international peace or endangering the prestige or reputation of the Cuban state, is guilty of a crime that is punishable by the deprivation of freedom from one to four years.

Cuba, therefore, has the moral and legal right to act as it did. Any state that does not ensure that its laws are respected does not even respect itself.

Attorney General Targets Economic Crime

FL2211020090 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0023 GMT 22 Nov 90

[From the "Exclusivo" program]

[Text] Attorney General of the Republic Ramon de la Cruz Ochoa gave maximum priority in Holguin to the handling of economic crimes on the eve of the expansion of the special period in peacetime. During a meeting with the provincial prosecutors of the central-eastern region of Cuba, De la Cruz Ochoa stated that it is necessary , now more than ever, to respond with an energetic and systematic fight against acts that harm the nation's economy.

The attorney general recommended decisive action against crimes of illicit enrichment, a frequent evil requiring the attention of all parts of the legal system. The working people are demanding such action, he added. To meet this responsibility, the specialization of prosecutors in economic issues is important. This will make it possible for them to work together with the auditors to get results such as those obtained in Havana, where crimes that are very difficult to detect are currently being uncovered.

Delegation Returns From WFTU Moscow Congress

FL2211165790 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1253 GMT 22 Nov 90

[From the "Haciendo Radio" program by Leyvis Montoya Fabrega]

[Text] The Cuban delegation that attended the 12th Congress of the World Federation of Trade Unions [WFTU] in Moscow from 13-20 November, has already returned home. Pedro Ross Leal, alternate member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Cuba and secretary general of the CTC [Cuban Workers Federation] told the press that the congress ensured that the WFTU will continue to be a workers class organization, what he called the forum of solidarity. He said that a broad platform emerged from the congress, including the basic principle that a labor organization has to defend workers' interests. He added that the organization was greatly strengthened by this congress.

[Begin Ross Leal recording] What is required now is for the labor movement in each country, and the WFTU itself, to be able to implement the platform in keeping with the result of the debates. I believe, therefore, that our primary goal was reached. [end recording]

The top Cuban labor leader told newsmen at the Jose Marti International Airport in Rancho Boyeros that it was a great achievement that the WFTU was significantly strengthened. In referring to the intensive work done by the Cuban delegation, he said:

[Begin Ross Leal recording] It was a continuous effort. We met with 62 labor organizations from over 30 countries. There were two meetings with all the Latin Americans who were there, and also a meeting with representatives of the Arab countries. We met with the leadership of the Organization of African Trade Union Unity, and with the organization that is made up of Arab labor unions. I can say that in all the pronouncements that were made in the congress, there was support for the Cuban revolution. There were words of high praise for our revolution and in defense of the Cuban revolution. All the Latin Americans who spoke there noted the need to defend the Cuban revolution and socialism in our country. Not only the Latin Americans, but also leaders from all the continents expressed support for the Cuban revolution. [end recording]

The 12th WFTU Congress held in Moscow approved Cuba as one of the organization's regional offices, Ross Leal said. He emphasized that the Cuban delegation asked the congress to give another vice presidency to Latin America, a proposal that was approved by the delegates. Cuba also proposed that this responsibility be entrusted to a woman. The charge went to Dominican comrade Nelsida Marmolejo.

Ross Leal Notes Achievements

FL2211153790 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1405 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Interview with Pedro Ross Leal, secretary of the Cuban Workers Federation, with unidentified reporter on his return from the 12th congress of World Federation of Trade Unions, WFTU, in Moscow; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Ross Leal] The most important achievement of this international labor event is that it was possible to ensure that the WFTU will continue to represent the working class. There were many predictions, especially in the media that are the enemies of, that are not in favor of the labor movement, that the organization would be buried in this congress. The forum was, however, united and it produced a very broad platform reflecting the basic principles that a labor organization must have in order to defend the workers' interests.

The WFTU emerged renovated, because in its concept of future tasks there are many new things, with greater possibilities of creating a pluralistic climate within the organization. It is not a sectarian organization and any labor organization in any country, that defends workers interests and works honestly in pursuit of those interests, should be affiliated with the WFTU, or work in conjunction with it.

I can say that in all the pronouncements that were made in the congress, there was support for the Cuban revolution. There were words of high praise for our revolution and in defense of the Cuban revolution. All the Latin Americans who spoke there noted the need to defend the Cuban revolution and socialism in our country. This was true not only of the Latin Americans, but also of leaders from other areas. Leaders from Africa, Asia, and all the continents expressed support for the Cuban revolution.

[Reporter] Do you believe, then, that this congress was able to reaffirm the nature of the WFTU and the objectives for which it was created?

[Ross Leal] I believe it did, and moreover, in this congress, with the renovation of many aspects of the federation's (?activities) and its projection for the future, possibilities of expanding labor activities were created. The rest is now up to the federation itself and to each of us who make up the federation.

Commentary on Paris Security, Cooperation Summit

FL2111174390 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1255 GMT 21 Nov 90

["Our Opinion" commentary written by Jose Armas and read by Roberto Canela]

[Text] The Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe ended in Paris today. The top leaders of the United States, Canada, and every European country, except Albania, met in a atmosphere of collective understanding. Points of agreement were made during the summit by statesmen from countries which, up to a very short time ago, were seperated by irreconcilable differnces. It is said that this is the prelude of a new era of trust and peace for the European Continent.

The Warsaw Pact is dying but it tells the NATO countries that it is no longer an adversary and offers mutual friendship. It is known that the fate of the Warsaw bloc is its disappearance, but there is uncertainty regarding NATO. President Bush insisted in May on the importance of expanding and strengthening NATO. Bush said this bloc is a vital element for U.S. presence in Europe and for the crucial role it should play in directing and stabilizing the changes that have taken place. Nevertheless, one of the turning points of the summit was the signing of the first treaty for the reduction of conventional weapons since World War II.

The agreement provides for the deactivation of 100,000 tanks, planes, helicopters, and artillery units. Miterrand said the summit marked the end of an epoch. Bush asserted that the beginning of a new world order is emerging. In a few words, apparently, Europeans should feel happy. That is, only the Europeans.

The Third World and Latin America also have a view of the conference. It can be stated objectively and without bitterness that for the Third World countries there is neither cooperation, nor security, peace, humanitarian

gestures, development, and not even hope. In order for peace, as well as the benefits of its effects, to reach everyone it has to be universal.

It was said that the cold war ended in Europe, but for Latin America and the Third World as a whole, war continues to exist, and not exactly the cold war. [For example, in] Panama, Guatemala, El Salvador, Dominican Republic, Nicaragua, Middle East, Liberia, Rwanda, Angola, and South Africa. It would be cynical to speak of security, peace, and cooperation for the peoples of those nations. Eight of the creditors of the unpayable Latin American foreign debt are members of the European Community. The region owes the European Continent $100 billion, 200 million people in Latin America and billions in the Third World go hungry. These beings have no hope of improving their precarious existence.

We will see what the meaning of the announced new era will bring, and what role the United States and Europe will play. We hope that the Europeans, driven by the force of the new winds, will not associate themselves with the policy of looting the poor countries. We shall see.

Sponsorship of UN Draft Resolution Reported

FL2211135090 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Cuba has presented to the UN General Assembly a draft resolution calling for respect for free determination and opposing interference in the electoral processes of states. The proposal, which was cosponsored by Afghanistan, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Libya, China, and Yemen, would bolster the right of all peoples to choose their own political, economic, and social system without interference in their internal affairs.

On recognizing that no political system or model of electoral process is applicable to all nations, the Cuban draft reiterates that it is solely up to the peoples to determine and establish the institutions of their electoral processes.

Mission Rejects CSFR Stand

FL2211124390 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Cuba has described as disrespectful, insulting, and irresponsible statements made by the Czechoslovak delegate on the initiative of the nonaligned countries for an international campaign against colonialism.

A note circulated to the press by the Cuban mission to the United Nations rejects the comments made on Tuesday at the UN General Assembly by Czechoslovak delegate (Aleksandr Slavik) on the implementation of the declaration for the independence of colonized peoples and territories.

(Slavik) described the proposal of a worldwide campaign for decolonization as a useless and costly piece of paper.

The Cuban note recalls that the initiative on a worldwide campaign to end colonialism in the world was included in the final declaration of the third declaration [as heard] of information ministers of the nonaligned countries that was adopted in Havana in September.

Quito Regional Conference on Poverty Noted

FL2211131690 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Cuba has urged Latin American governments to allocate greater efforts to economic development and the eradication of poverty through an efficient system of popular participation. The exhortation was made in Quito, Ecuador, by (Fabio Echomon), head of the Cuban delegation to the second regional conference on poverty in Latin America and the Caribbean that will end tomorrow in the Ecuadoran capital.

The Cuban paper stated that the governments should adopt a positive attitude in favor of development and the overcoming of poverty, by familiarizing themselves with problems and with the effects of decision-making on the people's interests.

Miret Welcomes Returning 'Internationalists'

FL2111140890 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 No 90

[Text] Another group of internationalist fighters has returned to the homeland. They were received by Pedro Miret, member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Cuba, and Brigadier Generals Roberto Ruiz and Carlos Arrocha of the FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces] and MININT [Ministry of Interior], respectively.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified speaker] Dear comrades, we extend to you the warmest welcome to the fatherland. Dear fighters of a triumphant army, with effort, dedication, and great sacrifice, you realized our people's effort to place internationalism at the service of Angola, Namibia, and all of Africa, and in the broadest sense of the term, you embodied the ideal of emancipation of the peoples who are struggling for their national liberation against imperialism and colonialism.

There is no doubt that Africa has more freedom now than ever, and that the history written by the Cuban internationalists in African lands constitutes a magnificent lesson taught by the peoples to the enemies of freedom and independence.

[Internationalist fighter] The things that one experiences over there give a true idea of just what our people have achieved through internationalism. [end recording]

Miret Opens Technology Transfer Conference

FL2211014490 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0007 GMT 22 Nov 90

[From the "Exclusivo" program]

[Text] The importance of encouraging automation in underdeveloped countries was stressed by Politburo member Pedro Miret Prieto when he opened the second international CADCAM [expansion unknown] conference on technology transfer for Latin America. Miret, the honorary president of this event, analyzed how technological development is slow in this region while it is very rapid in the highly industrialized countries, and he reviewed the importance Cuba has granted to automation in recent decades.

Castro Diaz-Balart Views Nuclear Potential

FL2111155890 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1458 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] During a visit to the Cienfuegos area, Fidel Castro Diaz-Balart, executive secretary of the Atomic Energy Commission, recognized the capability of Cienfuegos facilities and professionals to apply nuclear technology to production.

In his tour of the central provinces, Castro also visited Sancti Spiritus. He noted the favorable prospects of nuclear medicine in that province, where it is used to improve the quality of medical treatment.

Angolan Delegation Arrives on Working Visit

FL2111162190 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1459 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] A government delegation from the People's Republic of Angola, headed by Planning Minister Fernando Jose de Franca Diaz Van Dunem [name and title as heard] has arrived in Cuba on a working visit. The minister is accompanied by a group of high-ranking officials of various Angolan Government ministries.

The delegation was received at the airport by Carlos Aldana Escalante, member of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] and Division General Julio Casas Regueiro, as well as other dignitaries of the Cuban Government and the PCC.

The Angolan delegation will carry out an established work program, and will hold talks about the future development of cooperation between the two governments in various areas.

Brazilian Congressman Criticizes Mack Amendment

FL2311014590 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Marcelo Cordeiro, the president of the Brazilian Congress's standing committee on economy, trade, and industry, today reaffirmed in Havana his country's emphatic rejection of the anti-Cuban amendment presented by U.S. Senator Connie Mack.

[Begin Cordeiro recording] So there is no (?reason for) a policy of embargo, of provocative isolation, certainly not against a brother Latin American nation like Cuba. [end recording]

On 20 November, U.S. President George Bush was forced not to push for implementation of the so-called Mack Amendment because of the strong opposition to it in the international community, but in Washington there has been speculation about the possibility of this bill being taken up again next year. The measure seeks to have subsidiaries of U.S. companies located in third countries boycott trade with Cuba.

As Marcelo Cordeiro, who is in Cuba accompanied by Brazilian Deputy Artur Lima, explained to the press, the aim of their visit is to explore ways of increasing economic relations between Brazil and Cuba. The two congressmen will hold talks with Cuban authorities and tour various industrial facilities and research institutes.

ANPP Department Head Hosts Basque Delegation

FL2211190490 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] The Basque delegation that is in our country has visited the National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP]. Jose Alberto Pradera Jauregui, general deputy of Vizcaya and Jesus Maria de Ortuondo Lares, director general of Euskal Irrati-Telebista were received at the top organ of government by Ramon Pez Ferro, chief of the ANPP International Relations Department.

During the meeting, the participants discussed local and international affairs, and the guests were briefed on our country's constitutional system.

The Basque delegation will be in Cuba until 25 November. During their stay, its members will tour areas of economic and social interest.

Havana Notes Ecuadoran Solidarity Communique

FL2111143190 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Ecuadoran writers and literary critics have reaffirmed their support for the Cuban revolution and expressed support for the government of President Rodrigo Borja for his independent foreign policy.

Intellectuals participating in the fourth convention on Ecuadoran literature in the southern province of Cuenca published a communique yesterday expressing solidarity with Cuba. The text says that such support is firmer and more necessary at this time, when there is an attempt to damage Ecuadoran-Cuban relations, as has been seen in the persistent campaign against Cuba being waged by Channel 10 television of Quito.

Inter-Caribbean Affairs

Antigua Probe Implications for Region Noted

FL2111194590 Bridgetown CANA in English 1635 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Castries, St. Lucia, Nov. 21, CANA—The ST. LUCIA VOICE newspaper on Wednesday called for a full-scale probe into charges of corruption in Antigua and Barbuda Government circles.

"Antiguans must be reassured of the honesty and character of their leaders, if they are to continue to vie for public office," the paper said in an editorial.

The paper was commenting on the findings of a recent probe into the trans-shipment through St. John's of Israeli arms to Colombian drug dealers. It said that the recommendations of British jurist Louis Blom-Cooper, who probed the scandal, should not be seen as the end of the problems facing Antigua and Barbuda. Blom-Cooper had suggested the immediate dismissal of the head of the Antigua and Barbuda Defence Force and the prevention of former Communications and Works Minister Vere Bird, Jr., from holding any public office.

The VOICE said that "dismissals alone may not address the weakness in the Antigua Government, and in its management of the state, much less would it restore the damage done to the national dignity of the Antiguan people."

The paper added: "It is time for a full-scale probe into corruption in Antigua. In fact, a firm, functioning policy of regular performance and character auditing should be adopted by all Caricom (Caribbean Community) governments, most of whom are offered the luxury of remaining in power for several terms....

"The popular saying that absolute power corrupts absolutely bears enough significance to the Caribbean, where many politicians seem to get the impression that a second, third, or fourth term in power is a licence to do whatever they please."

The paper said that the task facing Prime Minister Vere Bird, Sr., is to restore confidence "in and outside the country by going beyond the Blom-Cooper report to implement a comprehensive clean-up."

Dominica

Rumor of Elections Officer Dismissal Denied

FL2111145090 Bridgetown CANA in English 1226 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, Nov. 21, CANA—Attorney-General Jenner Armour has denied opposition charges that the Eugenia Charles government was planning to fire Chief Elections Officer Clem John.

Julius Timothy, the deputy leader of the main opposition United Workers Party (UWP), made the accusation on Sunday at the party's annual convention. He said the Charles government was dissatisfied with John's management of the elections earlier this year in which the ruling Freedom Party's majority was reduced to one.

Armour, in an interview with CANA [Caribbean News Agency], dismissed the charge as cheap political rhetoric calculated to create an issue where none existed. John, when contacted, also denied knowledge of a plan to have him replaced.

Under the Dominica Constitution, a chief elections officer can be removed from office for two reasons: inability to perform the functions of the office, or misbehaviour.

Dominican Republic

Balaguer Considers Creating Development Commission

FL2111192890 Santo Domingo Radio-Television Dominicana Radio Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Dr. Joaquin Balaguer, president of the Republic, has reported that he is studying a request aimed at creating a development commission that would act as a type of an open forum where complaints from the various sectors of the country would be received. The president announced this as he received a group of enterpreneurs and professionals who offered to support his government in overcoming the crisis.

The president of the Republic said the idea of creating a development commission was suggested to the government a few weeks ago. The chief of state asserted that the study is being conducted with a lot of dedication and seriousness because the government is aware of the importance the development commission attaches to the solution of the the country's problems.

On another matter, after listening to the stand of some of the figures, Dr. Joaquin Balaguer admitted that there are officials in his government who are acting with some slackness and noted that the government needs more practical and active public relations.

Among the figures who visited the president were Jose Hazin, sociologist Frank Marino Hernandez, Salomon Sang, and reporters Persio Maldonado and Federico Gratero.

Police Chief Praises Preventive Measures

FL2111190890 Santo Domingo Radio-Television Dominicana Radio Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Because of the preventive measures taken by the authorities in the country, no violent acts were registered during the first two days of the strike summoned by labor

union and popular organizations. This was said yesterday by the Police Chief, Major General Jose Ramon Mota Paulino. The top officers have been personally leading the preventive operations, he added . He said officers and commanders of the various police departments have been directing the preventive actions, so that the strike does not disturb peace and order.

Speaking again through his spokesperson, Colonel Juan Ramon de la Cruz Martinez, General Mota Paulino said the police operations have been more than adequate in halting any attempt to distrurb public order by groups identified with the general protest which started on Monday at 0600.

Five Shot, Wounded in Strike-Related Clashes

FL2111202390 Santo Domingo Radio-Television Dominicana Radio Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Five people, in several Baraona communities, received gunshot wounds in clashes with soldiers. The nation-wide strike is its third day. Among the wounded are: Rafael Felix Baez, Pedro Mendez, Rafael Perez, Ornelio Felix, and Aura Reyes. According to reports from Baraona Province, Rafael Felix Baez was shot in the stomach during street incidents in the community of Cabral while the other people were shot in clashes in Tamayo and Canoa, respectively.

PRD Leader Calls for End to 72- Hour Strike

FL2111203690 Santo Domingo Radio-Television Dominicana Radio Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] The president of the Dominican Revolutionary Party [PRD] has asked its members that, once the 72-hour deadline is reached, they lift the general strike which began last Monday. Nevertheless, Dr. Jose Francisco Pena Gomez said the success of the strike should be a signal that the people reject government policies. The opposition leader noted that, faced with this situation, the president should keep his promise of creating an emergency government fund to satisfy the population's urgent needs.

Views Crisis, Relations With Cuba

FL2111172890 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1328 GMT 21 Nov 90

["Exclusive" interview with Francisco Pena Gomez, leader of the Dominican Revolutionary Party, PRD, by Carlos Sanabia Marrero at Pena Gomez residence in Santo Domingo; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Pena Gomez] The present situation in the Dominican Republic is very serious. The crisis that we are experiencing is threefold [as heard]: it is an economic crisis; it is a political crisis; it is a social crisis; and of course, it is an institutional crisis. President Balaguer's economic policy has been disastrous and catastrophic for the country. While it is true that Dr. Joaquin Balaguer has managed to considerably increase tax resources, by means of a dynamic fiscal policy, it is also true that he has wasted those resources on unproductive projects. All of this has created economic and energy shortages, and bankrupted health and education services. Above all, the agriculture sector—which generates a portion of the foreign exchange and produces food for daily consumption—has been severly damaged.

All of this has produced a general feeling of discontent and has led to several calls for a general strike. The general strike was originally called by two opposing labor sectors: One demanding President Balaguer's resignation—a position supported by several political parties; and a second sector that has demanded a number of adjustments in the government's economic, labor, and institutional policy.

Therefore, the most important, wisest, most recommendable, most sensible thing to do was to stage a strike to pressure Balaguer and convince him of the need to change his economic policy; to cause him to take into account the people's rights and their need for food, clothes, housing, medicine, and health; to make him realize that one cannot waste fiscal resources on flashy projects. Such resources—as the two PRD administrations have done—should be saved to obtain the oil that we need.

[Sanabia] Dr. Pena Gomez, when will official relations between the Dominican Republic and Cuba be established?

[Pena Gomez] I believe that, in fact, relations between Cuba and the Dominican Republic already exist. I believe that few countries are as close as the Dominican Republic and Cuba. My program of government provided for the immediate establishment of diplomatic relations between Cuba and the Dominican Republic. [four-second break in reception]...the most important made by any Dominican delegation to the Republic of Cuba, as the affirmation of that commitment to rapprochement between our fatherland and the Republic of Cuba; two countries linked by a common history and reciprocal interestst, despite having different regimes and different ideologies.

End of Strike, Increased Business Activity Noted

FL2211192190 Santo Domingo Radio-Television Dominicana Radio Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] The general strike that entered its third day was suspended as of 0600 this morning. The labor union organizers, including the National Confederation of Popular Organizations, said they wanted the movement to end.

The strike was suspended without any regrettable personal incidents. The political parties that had supported the protest stated, through their spokesmen, they agreed to the suspension.

When the end of the strike was announced, increased activity could be noticed, both in businesses and in the capital's public transportation services. Many stores and industries conducted normal activities, and there were many people in the city's commercial centers.

Haiti

CEP Reports on Election Campaign Progress

FL2111165090 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1700 GMT 20 Nov 90

[Excerpts] With more than three million people registered on the electoral lists, the Provisional Electoral Council [CEP] says it is ready to put the finishing touches to the first ballot of the elections, scheduled for 16 December. Though ready, it says it is less than optimistic. Statements of a member of the CEP were monitored by our colleague, Jean-Max Blanc.

[Begin recording in Creole] The CEP declared on Monday 19 November that in spite of reported rumors, it will not fail to fulfill its mission of realizing elections in Haiti. In an interview, secretary general of the CEP, Jean Casimir, did not directly address the question of the CEP's apprehensions concerning election day. He said it is not a question of optimism; the CEP has a goal to reach, and it is determined to carry out its commitment.

The most significant achievement of the CEP so far, according to Casimir, is the voter registration of over three million Haitian citizens. Without minimizing the importance of the other successes of the electoral institution, Casimir credited the Haitian people for their contribution to the realization of these goals.

He did cite the yet unsolved problem of motorcycles which would facilitate the travels of the CEP workers. [passage omitted]

The CEP has three weeks left to organize at least the first ballot of the elections. At this point, the CEP says it will not look back. Optimism or not, the CEP has committed to just one goal: Organizing the elections. [passage omitted]

When referring to the electorate, Casimir offered no explanation for the unexpectedly large number of registered voters, a higher number than registered in 1989. CEP spokesman Gary Victor explained the 1989 statistics were not repeated in 1990. According to the 1990 statistics, there are 3.554.000 Haitians qualified to vote, by contrast the 1989 statistics were lower. Victor said that 92

of the Haitian people qualified to vote have already acquired their electoral card. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Threatens To Prosecute Agitators

FL2111191590 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1700 GMT 20 Nov 90

[Text] The Provisional Electoral Council [CEP] warns that it will take legal action against rejected candidates who try to disrupt the electoral process. In a press release dated 19 November, the Electoral Council noted that certain citizens, whose candidacies have not been accepted because of noncompliance with provisions of the Constitution or the election law, are trying to disrupt the electoral process. The CEP reminds those citizens in particular, and the population in general, of its decision to apply the articles of electoral law applicable in such cases.

In agreement with Article 101-1, the CEP has the right to recall any candidates, cartels, parties, or political groups whose supporters or members endanger the population's lives or property, or who would prevent any candidates, cartels, parties, or political groups from campaigning; to cancel the candidacy of any candidates or cartels whose supporters or whose party or political group refuse to comply with the CEP's orders; to take action against any citizens or groups of citizens caught in acts threatening the lives or property of the population.

According to Article 101-2, if it is proven that an individual or group is proven guilty of the aforementioned acts—in response to orders from a candidate, cartel, party or political group—these individuals and groups lose the right to take part in the elections, without prejudice, and are liable for any damages to the injured party, in addition to penalties provided by the penal code pronounced against the guilty person. Article 132 asserts that those who use false or slanderous means, or fraud, to coerce the above mentioned voters, or to cause those voters to abstain from voting, would be liable to a fine of five hundred to a thousand gourdes [Haitian], and an imprisonment of two to three years.

When the infractions cited in Articles 130, 131, 132, and 135 have been committed through riotous assembly, hue and cry, or threatening demonstrations with the purpose of disturbing the preparations of an electoral assembly, the perpetrators, referred to the government representative by the CEP, in addition to the penalties provided by the aforementioned articles, would also lose their civil and political rights for a period of six to 10 years. In addition, they would be liable to the same penalties as state employees who use material belonging to the state for personal political goals. If these actions have taken place in the context of a concerted plan to be executed throughout the country, or within a part or several sectors of the country, the penalties would double and be applied to the leaders and their accomplices.

In conclusion, the Electoral Council hopes that citizens whose candidacies have been rejected will comply with the Law and that prosecution will not be necessary. Communique was signed by President of the Electoral Council, Jean-Robert Sabalat.

Trinidad Press Casts Doubt on Elections

FL2111192590 Bridgetown CANA in English 1618 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, Nov. 21, CANA—The EXPRESS newspaper in Trinidad said on Wednesday there was no guarantee Haiti's mid-December election would be free and peaceful.

"Even as Haiti prepares for elections next month, the fear is mounting," the paper said in an editorial.

"While that fear is naturally greatest among Haitians themselves, it is also shared by those people around the world who for so long have hoped that Haiti would become a member of the growing democratic club."

The paper said although the dictatorial Duvalier father and son rulers have been ousted from the Caribbean country, there was no guarantee that elections on December 16 would be problem-free.

"Elections that are free and free from fear are essential to this process, but there is no guarantee that they will take place," the paper said.

"The ouster of the Duvaliers has not eradicated those nefarious interests who fear that their tremendous wealth and power will be circumscribed by democracy, and who are prepared to use violence on an unarmed electorate to maintain their status quo," it added.

The daily paper said the 80 percent success in the registration exercise in Haiti shows an extraordinary desire to participate in democracy's essential exercise, in spite of the mayhem which occurred during the aborted elections in 1987 when innocent voters were mowed down at the polls.

"Still, if not now, one day the Haitian people will win their round," the paper predicted.

Jamaica

Government Sells Telecommunications Shares

FL2111222090 Bridgetown CANA in English 2150 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Nov 21, CANA—The Jamaican Government has sold its 20 percent shareholding in Telecommunications of Jamaica (TOJ) to the British company Cable and Wireless for US42 million dollars, the state news agency Jampress announced Wednesday. This sale increases Cable and Wireless investment in TOJ, which controls the island's telecommunications network, from 59 percent to 79 percent. The remainder of the shares are held by private investors in Jamaica.

Jampress said that the sale was in keeping with the government's objective of accelerating the divestment programme. Last year, in a much-criticised move, the government sold 20 percent of its shares to Cable and Wireless. At that time, the other Jamaican shareholders said they should have been given the chance to purchase the shares.

However, last week Public Utilities Minister Robert Pickersgill said the remaining shares would be sold for foreign currency. Last financial year TOJ recorded an after-tax profit of US28 million dollars and under its licence is allowed to make a profit of up to 21 per cent of its net worth. TOJ is valued at more than 3 billion Jamaica Dollars (one US dollar = about 7.00 dollars Jamaica).

Under the sale agreement, future borrowing by the company will be guaranteed by the parent company, Cable and Wireless. The government remains a guarantor in respect of previous loans but will now be paid a guarantee fee of one percent of the outstanding balance of the liability. The government will also be allowed three representatives on the company's board.

Last year the company began a 2 billion dollar (J) upgrading and expansion programme which should see the introduction of 10,000 new phone lines.

TOJ was incorporated in May 1987 by the government to rationalise the existing telecommunications sector by merging the Jamaica Telephone Company and Jamaica International Telecommunications limited. The target date for the merger is April 1, 1991.

Trinidad and Tobago

Government Amends State of Emergency Decree

FL2111144090 Bridgetown CANA in English 1158 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, Nov. 21, CANA—The Trinidad and Tobago government has amended the state of emergency regulations to enable political parties to campaign freely for a by-election next month, the prime minister's office announced.

As a result, political parties no longer have to seek permission from the commissioner of police to hold public meetings in the West Trinidad constituency of Diego Martin Central where the by-election will be held on December 17.

The poll has been occasioned by the death of government MP Leo des Vignes, who died on August 1 after suffering gunshot wounds during the storming of Parliament by members of a predominantly Black Muslim group who unsuccessfully launched an attempt to overthrow the government on July 27. The state of emergency was imposed the following day and was recently extended for another month.

El Salvador

More Reportage on Continued FMLN, Army Clashes

Army Blamed for Damaging Red Cross Post

PA2111180890 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Communique issued by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front on 20 November in Chalatenango Department—read by announcer]

[Text] The FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] explains to our people, the international public, the International Red Cross Committee, and other humanitarian organizations:

1. The undemocratic Armed Forces, specifically the commands of the Military Detachment No. 1 in the city of Chalatenango, are solely responsible for the damage caused to the International Red Cross Committee.

2. This incident took place as part of the officers' well-known irresponsible conduct; they fired the projectiles in an indiscriminate manner when they were being harassed by the FMLN.

3. We reaffirm our stance of respecting the neutrality of organizations like the International Red Cross Committee and agreements related to conflicts, as well as of internationally approved treaties.

[Signed] FMLN, Chalatenago, 20 November 1990.

'Army for Democracy' Issues 'Bulletin'

PA2111175490 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 21 Nov 90

["Bulletin" issued by the General Command of the National Army for Democracy in El Salvador on 20 November—read by announcer]

[Text] We advise the Salvadoran people and international community as follows:

1. At 0000 today, 20 November, we began the national military campaign "Punishment of the Antidemocratic Armed Forces" with a strong attack on the Salvadoran Air Force central headquarters. We confirm the attack resulted in considerable losses, both to the airbase and its installations. The Air Force has been neutralized.

2. At 0245 our units began to advance simultaneously in other directions. At this moment we maintain partial control of the capitals of the departments of Chalatenango, San Francisco Gotera, and Usulutan. We have occupied the cities of Apopa and Nejapa and there is fighting in the cities of Quezaltepeque and San Martin, on the outskirts of the capital.

3. As part of our campaign, our forces have attacked with rifle and artillery fire the following military positions: The El Roblar counterrevolutionary base in Guazapa; the communication stations of El Pacayal in San Miguel; the Mecafe coffee processing plant; the El Angel sugarmill in Nejapa; and the coffee cooperative between Entre Rios in La Paz and the cargo dispatch center of the CEL [Lempa River Hydroelectric Executive Commission] in Antiguo Cuscatlan.

4. We continue to occupy the towns of Dulce Nombre de Maria, Comalapa, and San Francisco Morazan in Chalatenango, and Santa Elena and Santa Maria in Usulutan. During the first hours of the campaign, there were many ambushes of enemy reinforcements. During the fighting, there were clashes with special airborne forces in the vicinity of San Jose Guayabal, where numerous enemy casualties were inflicted. These include a lieutenant who was in command of the group. There was an attack on the 4th Infantry Brigade in Chalantenango. At this moment our forces are sabotaging the economic infrastructure and have occupied stretches of the highway in different parts of the ccountry. The general results thus far indicate that the forces of the National Army for Democracy have inflicted more than 150 casualties on the enemy, destroyed four armored vehicles, and damaged aircraft and several military garrisons.

6. [Number as heard] We call on persons who live within a 100- meter-radius of the headquarters of the antidemocratic Armed Forces to evacuate. We advise all inhabitants to take precautions when on the city streets and to abstain from driving on roads in the interior. Without an end to impunity there cannot be a cease-fire. Only with the disappearance of the antidemocratic Armed Forces can there be an end to the war.

General Command of the National Army for Democracy El Salvador, 20 November 1990

Rebel Communique on 20 Nov Campaign

PA2111193290 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Communique issued by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) General Command in El Salvador on 20 November; monitored in progress due to break in reception]

[Text] ...B. Through its neoliberal program, the government has continued with repression and has increased poverty.

C. The government has announced that the Armed Forces are not negotiable, thus hindering negotiations.

D. The Armed Forces continue to carry out operations against our fronts.

Therefor: with the purpose of accelerating the negotiations process, our command has decided to give a military answer to the impunity, repression, and military operations of the Armed Forces, as well as the stubborn attitude of the government that refuses to demilitarize society and holds on to a criminal army.

In view of the above, we announce the following to the nation and the international community:

1. Today our forces began the military campaign "Punishment of the Antidemocratic Armed Forces," which includes several nationwide operations for limited objectives. If the government and the military continue to resist international pressures, the demands of the entire nation, and our military pressure, and continue to oppose a political solution, we reserve the right to launch a large-scale military offensive in the short or medium term. There can be a ceasefire only when impunity comes to an end. The end of the war will come only when the antidemocratic army totally disappears.

2. With this campaign, we are also beginning the process of turning the FMLN's military forces into the National Army for Democracy [ejercito nacional para la democracia]. It is a professional army that will exist as long as the antidemocratic army exists. Its chain of command has the levels of soldiers, noncommissioned officers, officers, and commanders up to the rank of colonel. The National Army for Democracy has a single general staff.

3. We urge the people to adopt the necessary measures and follow the instructions that will be issued by the general staff of the National Army for Democracy during our military campaign.

[Signed] FMLN General Command: Commanders Salvador Sanchez Ceren, Eduardo Sancho, Joaquin Villalobos, Francisco Jovel, Jorge Shafik Handal.

In El Salvador, at 0000 on 20 November 1990.

Fighting in Chalatenango, Morazan

PA2111145990 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1353 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Police sources have reported that two private cars were set on fire last night by unidentified individuals on the Ejercito Boulevard near Molino del Salvador in San Salvador. They added that although the two vehicles were damaged there were no fatalities.

The sabotage to the national electricity system continued in the evening, according to official reports. More than three energy towers were downed by bombs on Arce and 19th Street, on Northern Avenue, on 13th and West Street, and in the Lomos neighborhood in Versalles. The employees of the Electric Power Company of San Salvador, CAES, will immediately begin to repair the damage to restore energy service in those areas.

Regarding the fighting reported yesterday in different areas of the country as part of an FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] campaign, we learned that problems continue this morning in Chalatenango and Morazan Departments, where the Army continues to fight rebel columns. Official reports state that the clashes began early in the morning yesterday and are still raging this morning.

A National Police spokesman of the Zacamil Battalion said this morning that no casualties or damage were reported during yesterday's rebel attack on that military position. The actions, which lasted 15 minutes, were extended to the Ayutuxtepeque sector.

Sporadic Clashes Reported Amid Calm

PA2111164890 Paris AFP in Spanish 1514 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] San Salvador, 21 Nov (AFP)—Both government and rebel sources are reporting that although hostilities between the Salvadoran Army and the guerrillas continued today, their intensity has decreased in some areas of the country.

After a day of heavy fighting between the Army and the guerrillas, who launched an offensive of "limited scope" on 20 November, the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) attacked a National Guard post in Sesori in San Miguel Department, 153 km east of San Salvador, early this morning. No casualties have been reported.

The guerrillas also attacked the local military command in Zaragoza, La Libertad Department, 30 km southwest of the capital. Two civil defense members were wounded during the action.

AFP has been able to confirm that there is calm today north of San Salvador in the towns of Apopa and Nejapa, where heavy battles between soldiers and rebels took place on 20 November. Army units and rescue brigades are constantly patrolling these areas.

Meanwhile, in the interior of the country, in northern Chalatenango Department, a worker at the telecommunications office told AFP that sporadic shooting has been heard on the outskirts of the city [not further specified] while business activity was returning to normal, with stores opening their doors and buses beginning to run.

Calm is also returning to San Francisco Gotera, the capital of Morazan Department, and Usulutan. Nevertheless, electric power has been cut by the rebel sabotage of power lines and pylons.

On 20 November, the guerrillas launched simultaneous attacks on six of the country's 14 departments to force President Alfredo Cristiani's government "to negotiate the end of the war."

More than 200 casualties, including 30 dead, have been reported in this new guerrilla offensive.

The FMLN said over Radio Venceremos on 21 November that its actions will continue at the nationwide level to pressure the government and the Army to demilitarize the country.

FMLN: Offensive Does Not Impede Talks

PA2111231790 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2040 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] San Jose, 21 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—Commander Miguel Saenz of the Political and Diplomatic Commission of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] of El Salvador said today in Costa Rica that in spite of the offensive launched yesterday, this guerrilla organization will uphold its position on maintaining a dialogue with the Salvadoran Government.

Saenz said: As far as the guerrillas are concerned, the offensive "will not interrupt" the dialogue. Saenz came to San Jose to explain to the Costa Rican Government the objectives of the "To Punish the Antidemocratic Armed Forces" [as received] operation launched in El Salvador. The offensive has already produced 100 casualties.

Costa Rican Foreign Minister Bernd Niehaus, who received the FMLN delegate in his office, has said that he is "very concerned" about the war's continuation, and noted that he is prepared to help the Salvadorans in their search for peace through dialogue.

The FMLN operation, according to Saenz, is aimed at "creating the opportunity" for the negotiations to proceed faster. He said that the guerrillas want to undermine the Salvadoran Army's capacity for resistance and force it to "seriously" negotiate the end of the conflict.

Saenz said that if the Army does not start "negotiating seriously," the FMLN has the right to increase its military operations.

As the guerrillas see it, demilitarization is the key to peace in El Salvador. "Without demilitarization," the rebel leader said, "it is impossible to bring peace to the country."

Because of this militarization, and the "impunity" granted to the Army, it is impossible to go along with the municipal elections scheduled for 10 March 1991.

According to Saenz, the conditions necessary for guaranteeing respect for the Salvadoran people's will, as expressed through their votes, do not exist at present.

Without giving any details, because of the commitment to maintain the confidentiality of the meetings, Saenz, said that there has been a change in the mode of negotiations being held.

Since 29 October, only four delegates from each side, and Alvaro de Soto, the Peruvian diplomat representing UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, are attending the meetings.

The two sides also agreed to discuss all agenda topics to prevent the talks from being bogged down on the issue of the Armed Forces.

The next meeting will be held before the 15 and 16 December Central American summit meeting in Costa Rica. The location has not been revealed.

The guerrillas are demanding that a cease-fire be established, as it was agreed to during the first round of talks in April in Geneva, Switzerland, and compliance with the agenda approved by both sides in Caracas (Venezuela) in May.

FMLN Communique Backs Negotiations

PA2211195690 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Communique issued by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) General Command on 21 November; place not given—read by announcer]

[Text] We inform the nation and the international community of the following:

1. We regard as positive the statement by UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar regarding the latest developments in the country.

2. We reaffirm our compliance with the commitments made to UN Secretary General Perez de Cullar to suspend attacks on civilians and acts of sabotage. Those commitments will continue to be observed at every level of our military strategy.

3. We reiterate that we consider negotiations as the ideal way to find a solution to the conflict in our country. We are not going to replace negotiations with a military option.

[Signed] Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front General Command.

FMLN Issues Bulletin No. 3

PA2211202290 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Bulletin No. 3 issued by the General Staff of the National Army for Democracy on 21 November—read by announcer]

[Text] Concerning [Chief of Staff] Colonel [Rene Emilio] Ponce's appearance over a national radio and television network, we hereby announce the following:

1. Ponce is trying to hide the weak and isolated state of the antidemocratic Armed Forces behind the absurd statement that the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] is divided. If we were divided, we would be weak, and it would have been easy for the Armed Forces to stop our operations; however, they have not been able to do so.

2. After spending many months waging an offensive against our fronts, the enemy displays a hypocritical and cowardly attitude when it shamefully complains on the first day of our military campaign.

3. A few hours before we began our military campaign, the colonels said that due to alleged international pressures they had dismantled our operations. This proves that they are weak and incapable of preventing our operations. In addition to being corrupt and murderous, the Armed Forces are not very smart; they are incapable and weak. There is no reason for the existence of such an Armed Forces.

4. Colonel Ponce is reducing the amount of his casualties to hide the weakness of the Armed Forces. He speaks of civilian victims, but he does not say that his Air Force and his artillery are responsible for the dozens of casualties among the civilian population.

5. We reiterate to Col. Ponce and the other soldiers involved in the murder of the Jesuit priests that unless impunity comes to an end, there will not be a cease-fire. As long as the antidemocratic Armed Forces exist, our army will exist. Only through total demilitarization will the war come to an end.

Issued by the General Staff of the National Army for Democracy.

El Salvador, 21 Novemeber 1990.

FMLN Criticizes Cristiani Statements

PA2211215490 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Communique issued by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) on 21 November in El Salvador—read by announcer]

[Text] Regarding the appearance of Alfredo Cristiani in a national radio and television network, we inform the nation and the international community of the following:

1. Cristiani is distoring the remarks by UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar by accusing us of violating commitments. We have no commitment with the Arena [National Republican Alliance] government but with the UN secretary general. The commitments made to Perez de Cuellar on the suspension of certain options were and will continued to be respected, although the Arena government has not made any gesture of good will.

2. Cristiani's message contains two clear threats: The first is to break the negotiation process and escalate repression by stating that our military operations will generate more violence. It is known that for the government to generate violence this means murders, tortures, captures, and missing people.

3. The second threat is more evident at a time when we have learned about a new Jakarta Plan, which was drafted months ago. This plan, as the previous one that included the assassination of the Jesuit priests, contemplates attacks against leaders of the political opposition, the FMLN, and the popular movement.

U.S. politicians and the governments and personalities of various countries know about the plan's existence and are expressing their concern and have warned... [pause] That is, they are expressing concern and have privately warned some opposition leaders about it.

4. The government has tried to turn the negotiation into a game of appearances that is unacceptable. Advancing the negotiation is not only a procedural problem, but also one of content. The government has shown no willingness to advance in the aspects of demilitarization and democratization; to the contrary, it continues to violate human rights and hinder investigations on the Jesuits case; therefore, the FMLN reserves the right to launch a large-scale offensive in the short or medium run.

[Signed] FMLN General Command

[Dated] El Salvador, 21 November 1990

FMLN Reports on 20-21 Nov Clashes

PA2311031790

[Editorial Report] (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT on 22 November broadcasts a 10-minute report on military actions carried out on 20 and 21 November by the National Army for Democracy. This report begins by saying that on 21 November members of the Anastacio Aquino Paracentral Front inflicted 47 casualties on the troops of the antidemocratic Armed Forces, including 13 dead and 34 wounded in the area of El Playon and San Nicolas Lempa, San Vicente Department. The report adds that two corporals, one sergeant, two radio operators are included among the dead.

This 10-minute report continues that the rebels "seized nine M-16 rifles, two PRC-77 radios, one M-69 grenade launcher, three M-60 cartridge belts, eight M-16 equipments, and eight backpacks."

The same report states that on 20 November members of the National Army for Democracy "sabotaged four energy pylons in Llano La Hacienda, San Isidro jurisdiction in Cabanas Department."

The Venceremos battle report states that the Modesto Ramirez Central Front reports that "on 20 November at 1800 urban commandos of the National Army for Democracy launched an attack with RPG-81 and rifle fire on the National Police headquarters in the Zacamil neighborhood." The report further states that the urban commandos inflicted six casualties on the enemy and sabotaged energy structures in Zacamil, causing a power outage.

Within the framework of the operation "Punish the Antidemocratic Armed Forces," the Venceremos report continues, "on 20 November at 0200 subversive elements launched an attack on National Police positions in the mayor's office and ANTEL [National Telecommunications Administration] offices in Quezaltepeque."

The 10-minute report says that the rebels destroyed the offices of the Development and Investment Bank and several energy pylons also in Quezaltepeque.

The report continues, saying that "the National Army for Democracy attacked the National Police garrison in Quezaltepeque, which had been reinforced by the Artillery Battalion, at 0300 and inflicted six casualties."

Radio Venceremos also reports that at 0245 another FMLN commando attacked 1st Infantry Brigade positions in the Nescafe coffee processing plant in Nejapa. The clashes continued throughout the day. At 1500 the casualty toll was reported as follows:

"There were sixteen dead or wounded, one corporal was captured, two corporals and a section leader deserted. We seized four M-16 rifles, four pieces of military equipment, four backpacks, and a large amount of ammunition from the Army. Eight pylons were sabotaged in the same sector."

The 10-minute report goes on to say that also in Nejapa, National Army for Democracy forces attacked the Civilian Defense headquarters and inflicted three casualties.

Venceremos also reports that "at 0500 other FMLN forces attacked the El Picacho base on the San Salvador volcano with 60- and 81-mm mortars. Three electric pylons were sabotaged there."

The same report says that at 0300 they took over the Primavera canton, in western Quezaltepeque, and sabotaged five pylons. "At the same time there were clashes with the police and artillery troops in the same sector and inflicted six casualties on them. The final result of the clashes is: 25 casualties among the police, the 1st Infantry Brigade, civilian force, and artillery troops, 10 dead and 15 wounded, and the aforementioned war materiel."

During the same broadcast Radio Venceremos carried a last-minute report from Chalatenango. The report stated that "heavy fighting is taking place at this time between National Army for Democracy troops and antidemocratic Armed Forces in the place known as Tepeyac, in the northern part of Chalatenango City. The companions who have established communication with Radio Venceremos have reported nine casualties, seven wounded and two dead among the Bracamonte Battalion."

Radio Venceremos also carried a three-minute report during the same broadcast in which it stated that "the 'Punish the Antidemocratic Armed Forces' campaign continues."

The report added that the Francisco Sanchez northeastern front reported that on 20 November National Army for Democracy troops took control of Guatajiagua in Morazan Department. "The occupation began at 1900 and went on until 2100. Propaganda activities were carried out."

On that same day, between 1900 and 2200, National Army for Democracy troops took control of a stretch of the road from Guatajiagua to Chapeltique and set up barricades to block traffic."

The report adds that on the same day rebel troops entered the El Rodeo and Piedra Parada cantons in the Sensembra and Guatajiagua municipalities, Morazan Department, set off contact bombs and carried out propaganda activities.

The same report says that the southeastern Francisco Sanchez Front reported that "on 20 November FMLN guerrillas took control of a stretch of the road from Sociedad to Gotera between 0100 and 1400, but the enemy did not show up."

The report adds that on that same day militias set off contact bombs in Nubes hill, Corinto Juristiction, Morazan Department and in El Portillo, El Junco, between El Aguacate hill and Nubes hill, in Morazan Department.

FMLN: 'No Commitment' to Government

PA2211042090 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0240 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] San Salvador, 21 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—The Salvadoran guerrillas tonight said that it has "to honor no commitment with the the government and much less with the Armed Forces" in reply to condemnations drawn by its new offensive that has already claimed about 200 casualties.

A communique issued by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN), which was read over its station, Radio Venceremos, stated that the only commitments it has acquired are with the United Nations, which is the mediator in the peace negotiations that have taken been taking place since April.

Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani and Defense Minister Colonel Rene Emilio Ponce have described the offensive as "unjustified," saying that it runs counter to the negotiation process.

Cristiani said that the rebel actions jeopardize the talks while the FMLN construed this as being "a threat aimed at stepping up repression, torture, and murder."

The FMLN assured that the government's objective is "not to hold serious talks, but to maintain an appearance at the talks to cover up the impunity of the Armed Forces."

The insurgents warned that if the government "continues to avoid solving the case of the Jesuits (who were killed a year ago), the FMLN reserves the right to launch a large-scale offensive in the short or medium run."

The FMLN demanded a solution to the case of the six murdered Jesuit priests and the application of "exemplary justice" against the murder perpetrators and masterminds.

New Clashes in Northern San Salvador

PA2211040790 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0310 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Report by Ervin Ortiz in San Salvador; passages in italics are recorded]

[Text] New clashes occurred in the northern zone of San Salvador this afternoon when the Army tried to evict guerrilla groups which have been on the road between Apopa and Quezaltepeque since yesterday. Shortly before the Armed Forces' raid at 1600, groups of guerrilla fighters placed vehicles across the highway near the town of El Salitre—located only 1 km from Nejapa.

The Armed Forces' operation was supported by Air Force helicopters. The heavy fire made it necessary to evacuate the people from Canton El Salitre en masse. They were transferred to the city of Nejapa by rescue commandos.

[Unidentified speaker] *We have been working since 0600, and fortunately we have no deaths to bemoan. We are alert, however, because the people may need us, particularly those living in the outskirts, which are always affected by these actions. We are prepared to help them if something important happens.*

Armed Forces members said they will evict the rebel forces this evening.

[Second unidentified speaker] *You see that they have no chance of defeating the Army, not even the forces which have taken up positions here. Last night and throughout the day yesterday they harassed us over and over, but it is useless. They cannot infiltrate our positions. They cannot defeat us. No way.*

A guerrilla commander stated his assurance, however, that they could remain there.

[Third unidentified speaker] *We have the situation under control. It is not true that the enemy will evict us. We are here, intact. We have no wounded. We have no dead.*

Shortly afterward the fighting increased and the Army forces fell back and then surrounded the guerrilla forces in several sectors. Members of the 1st Infantry Brigade and the Bracamonte Battalion helped the forces that were fighting. There is no information on the casualties caused during the clash.

The traffic on that highway is still closed down at this hour. Furthermore, military sources confirmed today that FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] columns attacked 1st Military Detachment positions in Chalatenango early this morning. Two civilians were wounded when an explosive device fell inside their house. There are no other reports on casualties inflicted during the two military actions.

Arena Condemns FMLN Actions

PA2211190890 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0326 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Report by Marco Antonio Guevara]

[Text] Arena [Nationalist Republican Alliance] President Armando Calderon Sol called the attacks carried out yesterday, 20 November, by the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] acts of vandalism. He called on opposition parties to strongly condemn the guerrilla attacks.

As for yesterday's actions, the Arena president called on democratic political groups to speak out against the FMLN action, which he called a new terrorist action against the civilian population.

[Begin [Calderon recording, in progress]...to all politicians and to those who say they are democrats to condemn this FMLN attitude. We must all call for the suspension of these armed confrontations. Political leaders, even though they may have been linked to the FMLN in the past, have the duty to defend life, property, and order in our country. [end recording]

Calderon Sol said that the latest attacks carried out by the FMLN were not a show of military force, but of vandalism; therefore, their actions are not justified.

[Begin Calderon recording] To attack an Army post in the darkness of night or to place a bomb and destroy a bridge or a utility pole shows no skill. It is a cheap terrorist act, not a military action. It is not military might here or anywhere else. The FMLN is not proving its military strength; it is showing the strength of terrorists. It is showing that it does not like people. It is killing people without taking any risks; this is called terrorism. [end recording]

The mayor of San Salvador and president of Arena was questioned on Wednesday, 21 November, following a ceremony in which the Modelo Market's remodeling was inaugurated. It is located in the neighborhood bearing the same name. The remodeling was done with AID [Agency for International Development] funds and it is part of a municipal program for the reconstruction of markets in San Salvador.

Madrid Radio Reports Coup Rumors

LD2211100490 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 0700 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] There are intense rumors of a coup d'etat in El Salvador, according to diplomatic sources.

FMLN Issues Bulletin No. 4

PA2211220390 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Bulletin No. 4 issued by the General Staff of the National Army for Democracy in El Salvador on 21 November—read by announcer]

[Text] Bulletin No. 4 of the General Staff of the National Army for Democracy. We report the following:

1. On the second day of operations of the campaign called "Punish the Antidemocratic Armed Forces," we obtained the following overall results: 395 enemy casualties. We seized 37 M-16 rifles, two rocket launchers, a grenade launcher, PRC-77 radio sets, thousands of cartridges, and abundant war materiel.

In the past few hours three aircraft were damaged in addition to the [words indistinct] that we destroyed on the ground at the beginning of our campaign. This situation has virtually paralyzed the Air Force. We destroyed nine armored vehicles. Several soldiers were captured in combat and later released.

2. In the past (?20) hours our units have continued to fight in seven of the 14 departments, especially in the departments of Chalatenango, Morazan, Usulutan, and in towns in the outlying areas of northern San Salvador.

There will be no cease-fire as long as impunity continues. Our army will exist as long as the antidemocratic Armed Forces continues to exist.

[Signed] Staff of the National Army for Democracy

[Dated] El Salvador, 21 November 1990

Army, FMLN Continue Clashing

PA2211133490 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1235 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Rebels attacked the San Antonio Abad power sub-station located in western San Salvador. According to official reports, the leftists attacked the power installations with artillery fire, causing extensive damage. In addition, Air Force units and the 1st Infantry Brigade repelled the attack launched by the leftist guerrillas. The clashes lasted until 0200 today. The number of rebel casualties is still unknown.

Another report confirmed that the situation in San Jose Guayabal was serious this morning when rebels entered that town, which is in the eastern part of San Salvador. Reports confirm that between midnight and early this morning, the guerrillas fought with Army troops in San Jose Guayabal. Meanwhile, 5 km from San Jose Guayabal, Army troops—with support from the Air Force—attacked guerrilla redoubts in the vicinity of Guazapa Hill. Since early last night, Army troops—supported by the Air Force—located positions of the leftist guerrillas and attacked them, according to official reports.

In the eastern part of the country, especially in the city of San Miguel, the rebels attacked the installations of the 3d Infantry Brigade with artillery fire. This is the most important garrison in eastern El Salvador. Preliminary reports confirm at this time that at least five army soldiers were slightly wounded during the attack carried out by the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front].

Also this morning, army troops began a counterinsurgency operation by combing the area in search of the rebels, who attacked the military installations mentioned above with artillery fire. The situation in the eastern part of the country remains stable despite the attack that was carried out this morning against small military positions in Jucuapa, Usulutan Department. It was confirmed that three homes were badly damaged from the FMLN artillery fire. It is not known if there were any civilian casualties.

Another report states that the situation has been unstable since midnight in the town of Santa Elena, in eastern Usulutan Department, where rebels attacked security posts in the town. In addition, members of the 6th Infantry Brigade and Atonal Battalion began a search operation this morning in that area, according to official reports.

This has been a quick report on actions that took place in the interior and in this capital.

FMLN Claims 395 Army Casualties

PA2211161290 Paris AFP in Spanish 1421 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] San Salvador, 22 Nov (AFP)—The Salvadoran guerrillas said today that 395 soldiers have been killed or wounded during the violent clashes that broke out on the morning of 20 November, within the framework of a general "limited" offensive unleashed by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN).

An FMLN military bulletin broadcast this morning over a clandestine radio station reported, without specifying the number of dead and wounded, that in addition to the 395 casualties, several soldiers were captured in combat and later released.

In addition, the rebels reported the destruction of nine Army armored tanks, adding that they damaged three planes and seized 37 rifles, two rocket launchers, five communication radios, thousands of cartridges, and other supplies.

The FMLN announced in its bulletin that it had turned into a "National Army for Democracy." It announced that today "our members continue to fight in seven of the 14 departments of the country," mainly in Chalatenango, Morazan, and Usulutan in the northern and eastern part of the country, as well as in villages in the outskirts of northern San Salvador.

"There will not be a cease-fire as long as the impunity (in the Army) exists. We will exist as long as the antidemocratic Armed Forces exist," said the FMLN bulletin.

Army Commander Gives Casualty Figures

PA2211231990 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1730 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Report by Press Director Carlos Mario Marquez]

[Text] Colonel Ciro Lopez, commander of the 3d Infantry Brigade headquartered in San Miguel, today admitted that five soldiers were killed and five injured during a fleeting guerrilla attack against that military garrison. Col. Ciro Lopez said that units of the 3d Infantry Brigade have begun an operation in the outlying areas of and cities adjacent to San Miguel. Col. Lopez thus explained the attack that began at midnight:

[Begin recording] [Lopez] At 2315 last night an eight-minute attack was carried out against us with 81-mm mortars and a couple of RPG-18 rocket launchers. Only five shots fell in the immediate area. Brigade buildings were not damaged. An editorial section under some trees at the entrance was unfortunately hit, and we sustained five dead and five injured. Another shot fell on the lawn of the parking lot of the Miguelena Retreading Center located across from the garrison's main entrance and shattered the windows of a pickup truck.

Another shot fell in the San Carlos neighborhood, which is near the garrison; but no civilians were harmed, as it hit a vacant lot. All this lasted only eight minutes. The swift reaction by personnel in the helicopters, armored vehicles, and patrols in the immediate area minimized the damage.

[Marquez] Colonel, what is the situation in other departments for which the 3d Infantry Brigade is responsible?

[Lopez] San Francisco Moraza in Gotera faced one of the worst situations that day. There were more clashes with the terrorists there. The next day we conducted the corresponding pursuance operations involving DM-4 [Military Detachment No. 4] units. They had small clashes with the enemy and inflicted more casualties on them in that area.

I believe the situation in the departments is stable. We have had some contacts north of Torola River, in the area of Jocoaitique, where there have been a few terrorists killed, and we have seized arms and equipment from them.

[Marquez] Colonel, what is the picture in terms of dead and wounded on the two sides since 20 November?

[Lopez] We cannot give you accurate figures because the terrorists take away their casualties. We can only give you estimates based on confirmed casualty figures. We have confirmed 21 terrorist deaths at the DM-4. We estimate some 35 wounded.

[Marquez] What about the civlians, colonel?

[Lopez] There were three deaths and five wounded among the civilians. Six houses were destroyed in Gotera.

[Marquez] What about casualties among the armed institutions, colonel?

[Lopez] The DM-4 sustained five dead and 23 wounded. [end recording]

That was Col. Ciro Lopez Roque, commander of the 3d Infantry Brigade stationed in San Miguel, who added that there is also an operation to protect the coffee and cotton harvest in the country's eastern area. He said that the situation will normalize in the next few hours, because there is permanent guard in the various harvest areas.

Government Condemns FMLN Actions

PA2311005090 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 22 Nov 90

["Special message" from the Salvadoran Government to the people; place and date not given—read by announcer]

[Text] It has been established through intelligence reports and through the analysis of confidential FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] documents, that the confrontation between leaders of the FMLN's warmongering group and leaders of the most moderate group has worsened as a result of the new terrorist offensive. The current dispute within the FMLN leadership is the most serious since the confrontation which ended with the assassination of Cayetano Carpio, Commander Marcial, and Melida Anaya Montes, Commander Ana Maria. The main issue of this confrontation, which threatens to pass from the ideological level to the use of violence, is that the warmongering hardliners are forcing the FMLN to continue to try to seize power by force and to sabotage the negotiation process to preclude a negotiated solution to the conflict.

The FMLN's latest communique includes the threat that the FMLN reserves itself the right to launch a large-scale offensive in the short- or middle term, using the pretext of alleged human rights violations perpetrated by the government. The FMLN's attitude seeks to confuse the national and international community because specific facts prove that the terrorist offensive has already been launched, and it is specifically aimed at civilian rather than military targets. The Salvadoran people know this quite well given the amount of dead and wounded civilians, and the destruction of privately owned properties.

Given its importance, the following is the summary of the communique issued by the Costa Rican, Guatemalan, Honduran, and Nicaraguan Governments on the serious events which have occurred in the Republic of El Salvador:

1. They reassert their legitimate interest in the achievement of a peaceful and negotiated solution to end the armed conflict in El Salvador.

2. Referring to this, they ask the UN secretary general to personally, and in exercise of his duties under the Geneva Convention, to make the necessary contacts with the FMLN to achieve a prompt cease-fire of the armed actions that it initiated yesterday.

3. They urge the international community to offer its support to these efforts.

Despite the international community's appeal, the FMLN continues to jeopardize the lives of the civilian population by continuing to sabotage the electricity system in various zones of the national territory. The FMLN's terrorist commandos have increased the destruction of many power structures as part of their latest offensive against the Salvadoran people.

As a result of that absurd attitude displayed by the terrorists in San Salvador and other cities, the Lempa River Hydroelectric Executive Commission has been forced to ration electricity supplies in various areas.

With this sabotage the FMLN only causes damage and inconveniences the people, because the interruption of these services results in heavy losses in all productive activities in the country, affecting primarily the lower-income and middle-class citizens.

Moreover, because of the irrational destruction of electrical power structures, the vital potable water service has suffered prolonged interruptions in various sectors of metropolitan San Salvador and other municipalities. In this regard, the National Administration of Waterworks and Sewers [ANDA] reports the following to the Salvadoran people:

In view of the terrorist offensive launched by the FMLN, the water service, which is so essential for the lives of the individuals that make up our society, has been seriously affected. In attacking the power stations, structures, and lines, the FMLN has dealt a heavy blow on this institution whose sole mission is to provide water for the survival of all users who reside on national territory.

The following is some of the damage caused by the terrorist attacks on ANDA facilities:

1. Destruction of three dual structures of towers that carry electricity owned by this institution on the Quezaltepeque-Nejapa stretch.

2. Electricity outages for more than 30 hours on the supply system of Mejicanos, Cuscatancingo, and Ayutuxtepeque.

3. Damage to the power line that supplies the Chalatenango Plant.

4. Damage to the power line that supplies electricity to Soyapango, Ilopango, San Marcos, Santiago Texacuangos, and Santo Tomas.

5. Damage to the power lines in Apopa and Quezaltepeque.

6. Damage to the power lines in Santa Tecla and the immediate area.

7. Due to voltage variations, 10 50-100 horsepower electric motors for pumping equipment were burned out. This affected the towns of Coatepeque, Usulutan, Chalatenango, and three pumping stations in San Miguel.

8. In general, the rationing of all supply systems in San Salvador are causing deficiencies in services.

In view of this situation, ANDA is making all efforts to normalize services in no more than 72 hours, so long as FMLN attacks against the infrastructures, which service the people, end.

ANDA expresses its profound gratitude to its courageous personnel who are working tirelessly to restore service. Finally, it urges people to make efforts to conserve water, because we must all unite in efforts to overcome the painful situation imposed on us by the criminal FMLN terrorists.

The government thanks the people for their expressions of support for our efforts to defend the fatherland and urges them to stay on guard and to support our Armed Forces in their efforts to comply with their constitutional duties of defending the lives, safety, and property of the people.

It also advises the citizens to not be deceived by rumors and false reports that the enemies of peace and democracy are spreading to confuse the people. The government of the Republic, via the various media, will continue to report on the development of events. Please convey any information which will help to maintain order and public security by calling 23-7166, 23-3680, or 123.

Army Commander on Attack, U.S. Aid Cut

PA2311041290 Paris AFP in Spanish 2015 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Report by Jose Zaldua, AFP special correspondent]

[Text] Usulutan, El Salvador, 22 Nov (AFP)—Colonel Julio Cesar Grijalba, commander of the Salvadoran Army's 6th Infantry Brigade, said that the offensive launched by the rebels on 20 November was intended to "demoralize and wear out" the government troops.

In statements to AFP made at the Usulutan garrison command post, located 110 km east of San Salvador, Col. Grijalba said that the offensive was also aimed at "strengthening" the rebel's position at the peace negotiations.

Grijalba also regretted the cut in U.S. military aid to El Salvador because, "even though the United States has not turned its back on El Salvador, it is not going to give us the help we really need."

Surrounded by the trophies his soldiers have won in shooting competitions, as well as diplomas and photographs in which he is surrounded by soldiers he commanded, Col. Grijalba does not give the impression of being the typical soldier who wears sunglasses and makes threatening gestures.

As far as the commander of the 6th Infantry Brigade is concerned, it is obvious that "foreign interests" played an important role in Washington's decision, which "I believe was due mainly to the Jesuits who were murdered (by the Army) during last year's offensive," he said.

Grijalba added, however, that "the United States has its policies and interests, and we respect their decision because they are a sovereign nation."

Asked whether the cut in military aid will have a negative effect on the troop's morale, Grijalba said that "our motivation is not prompted by the aid; our motivation is promoted by our desire to serve our people and protect the institution."

Grijalba admitted, however, that "it will be up to President Alfredo Cristiani's government to seek aid from other countries. When you divorce your wife, for whatever reasons, you do not just sit down. No, you go out and find yourself another woman. Right?"

Assigned by the high command to Usulutan, a department in the eastern sector of El Salvador described as "the country's granary," Grijalba said that Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) rebels are seeking to "demoralize and wear out the government troops."

According to the military commander, the rebels occupy positions and pretend to be holding them when "the truth is that they are trying to draw us to them and then they withdraw, raising our soldier's hopes, because they believe they are forcing the rebels to withdraw. The rebels then turn around and attack us and that is why we have casualties."

According to Col. Grijalba, the "political nature" of the rebel offensive is based on their need to avail themselves of better conditions for the peace dialogue that began in April under the sponsorship of the United Nations.

"All this is part of a campaign to gain them a more advantageous position at the negotiating table," the high ranking soldier said.

With deep conviction Grijalba added, "it will all be useless because we are defeating them."

Grijalba said that the soldiers "are ready to defend the civilian population, and it will be difficult for the rebels to continue their operation because they are running low on food and ammunition."

FMLN Attacks Army in San Salvador

PA2211043290 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2325 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] San Salvador, 21 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—According to rebel reports, the Salvadoran guerrillas today attacked several Army mobile patrols and guard units in San Salvador with grenades and other explosives, killing 17 soldiers, as part of the offensive launched on 20 November.

According to the guerrillas, eight of the soldiers were killed with explosives while they were guarding several areas in the western and northern parts of the capital.

Coprefa [Armed Forces Press Committee] reported the rebel harassments, but did not admit any casualties among army ranks in San Salvador.

According to the rebels, their new offensive has already inflicted more than 100 casualties.

An urban guerrilla told newsmen that the attacks against soldiers in San Salvador are to "reject the excessive militarization of society and to demand that the garrisons be removed from the cities."

According to eyewitnesses, one of the soldiers guarding the University of El Salvador, north of the capital, was wounded this afternoon when urban guerrillas attacked him with grenades.

According to Coprefa, a guerrilla died in a armed clash in Jocoaitique, about 203 km northeast of the capital, in the conflict-ridden Department of Morazan.

Coprefa also reported that one soldier was killed and three were wounded in a clash between the Army and rebels in Santa Elena, a town of Usulutan Department, in southeastern El Salvador. In Zaragoza, a town in La Libertad Department, the guerrillas attacked the civilian defense (paramilitary corps) headquarters, killing one soldier and wounding another.

Mexico: 'No Knowledge' of Renewed FMLN Talks

PA2111130290 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 0510 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Mexican Ambassador Emilio Lopez Bassols said on 20 November that the Mexican Government has no knowledge of a renewed round of confidential talks between the Salvadoran Government and the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] to continue their negotiations.

Nevertheless, the head of the Mexican mission reiterated that the Mexican Government is willing to support the negotiations process initiated by the Salvadoran Government.

[Begin recording] [Lopez Bassols] As you may recall, a few days ago a much stricter confidentiality mechanism was put into place for the dialogue between the Salvadoran Government and the FMLN. The Mexican Government and other governments are therefore quite willing to offer their negotiating table whenever the conflicting sides request it. At present, the Mexican Government has not been approached for another meeting similar to the one held in Mexico City.

[Reporter] Mr. Ambassador, it has been said that the United Nations is looking for three or four countries to directly support the negotiations. Do you believe Mexico is one of the countries which could directly be involved in the search for peace?

[Lopez Bassols] While strictly adhering to the principle of non-intervention, Mexico is also very willing to support any action that the UN secretary general points to or asks us to consider as positive for the negotiations and for their conclusion, such as a cease-fire with political agreements and ultimate peace in the country. [end recording]

Honduras

Japan Grants Financial Aid During Callejas Visit

PA2111024290 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 15 Nov 90 p 4

["Press communique" No. 070-90 issued by the Foreign Ministry Press Office in Tegucigalpa on 14 November]

[Text] President Callejas said during his recent trip to Japan that to assure petroleum supplies and acceptable terms of payment, it is necessary for the international community to establish a network of guaranteed energy supply.

The Honduran President stated this in a meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, during which he also expressed his concern for the economic impact of the Persian Gulf crisis.

During his meeting with the Japanese prime minister, President Callejas expressed his appreciation for Japan's support of the IMF, regarding Honduran programs, as well as for bilateral agreements between Japan and Honduras, such as the Choluteca River project. In addition, President Callejas reported to Prime Minister Kaifu on damage caused by the recent floods on the northern coast.

Prime Minister Kaifu expressed his solidarity with flood victims and offered Japan's cooperation for the reconstruction of damaged sites. The Japanese prime minister reiterated that Honduras is considered a priority regarding the granting of Japanese aid. In this regard, Japan granted 500 million yen (approximately 243 million lempiras) in financial aid, offered support to Honduran programs with international financial institutions, and analysis by specialists of the recent projects presented by the Honduran Government.

The Prime Minister congratulated President Callejas for his peaceful policy in Central America and expressed his appreciation for his attendance at Emperor Akihito's crowning ceremony.

Tegucigalpa, 14 November 1990. Information and Press Office. Foreign Affairs Ministry.

Nicaragua

Antonio Lacayo Reports on Meeting With Mayors

PA2111230090 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2100 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Report by Adolfo Pastran Arancilla from Juigalpa—live]

[Text] The special Cabinet meeting held by President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro and the Region 5 mayors just ended here in Juigalpa. The Nicaraguan Government has proposed—and will immediately implement—the retirement of 500 Army officers from Region 5, the construction of schools and hospitals for crippled Nicaraguan Resistance [RN] members, the creation of a rural police, the immediate disarmament of civilians in this zone, and the removal of municipal government ministry delegates. The police have been instructed to help the mayors carry out their municipal duties.

In addition, 18 of the 34 military installations in the Chontales area will be turned over to the RN demobilized members, orphans, and cripples for their usage. A decree will also be issued to help maimed RN members by giving them a pension for life. President Chamorro announced this afternoon that she has already sent the decree to the Legislative Assembly.

A decree will be issued to create the Social Emergency Investment Fund. Ten million dollars will be used to help the poorest people and for emergencies. The National Commission for Disarmament will be created on 27 November during the visit of former Costa Rican President Oscar Arias Sanchez, and more weapons will be buried.

Before ending the meeting, President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro thanked the ministers who traveled to Region 5 and the region's mayors, who actively participated in the event. Nevertheless, we want to emphasize that once the session ended, all the mayors told the local and international media that they were unsatisfied and displeased with the meeting because all their demands were not met.

Engineer Antonio Lacayo, minister of the Presidency, also commented before a news conference that will be held here at the Nicaraguan Public Administration Institute.

[Begin recording] [Lacayo] [Words indistinct] are sure that will follow.

[Reporter] The mayors say that they are not satisfied because their main demands were not met and they are disappointed.

[Lacayo] Well, the mayors talked with the various commissions appointed by the government, and, according to the mayors, their main goal was the reduction of the military presence in this region. Region 5 is where the

war occurred and obviously a large military presence, which is no longer needed, still remains there.

I think the announcement about 18 of the 34 military installations being dismantled and given to the people represents something spectacular from Mrs. Chamorro and the military authorities because it calls for a reduction of more than 50 percent of the military installations.

In addition, there will be a 40 percent reduction in the number of active duty officers in this region within the plan for the reduction of 5,000 Army officers. In other words, I think that the essential thing, the military issue—which was the main concern of the mayors—has been resolved.

Also, the other important request from the mayors concerned solving the RN members' most urgent problems. We discussed a proposal today from the regional agrarian commission to increase the land bank with 35,000 manzanas, and the president approved it. This means that we will have almost 175,000 manzanas in this region [words indistinct] 5,000 demobilized RN members. We must remember that there are 20,000 demobilized RN members throughout the country.

We believe that there will be [words indistinct] land in the region with this solution and that the regional commission will continue to look for solutions to their problem. Therefore, two essential issues—demilitarization and the RN members' problems—have been solved.

[Reporter] Did the mayors pledge to end the violent actions that have been carried out in recent weeks?

[Lacayo] Well, those actions have already ended. You are here in peace and the highways are clear, so this is a fact. Also, Mrs. Chamorro urged the mayors to increase—through dialogue or the appropriate channels—communication between municipal, regional, and national authorities to find solutions to the country's problems.

[Reporter] Did they insist on the dismissal of any ministers?

[Lacayo] No, there was no mention of that request during the meeting.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Lacayo] That is what I was initially told. I already heard about that. [Words indistinct] Armed Forces an apolitical and professional organization and many of them find this difficult to accept because they were activists of the Sandinist National Liberation Front. Obviously, they must adapt themselves to the new reality—if they want to remain in the Armed Forces. I think that many of them realize this, deep in their hearts, and others will also, in time. This is a process that takes some time and the country is striving to achieve this goal. The use of violence will lessen because the people will continue to reject it. If they do not, the police will have to be used, and things may get out of hand.

I believe, however, that things will improve as the country comes to realize that the government solves conflicts through dialogue and negotiations. This has been demonstrated by this fruitful cabinet meeting in Juigalpa. [end recording]

We would like to add that the meeting was held behind closed doors, but we had access to what was being discussed and were surprised to learn that the mayors....[corrects himself] the negotiating commission appointed by the mayors never asked the government to dismiss any of the ministers attending the meeting; nor did they demand the dismissal of General Humberto Ortega.

They could have availed themselves—and this is a personal opinion—of Mrs. Chamorro's presence and of the cabinet members' presence to make their political demands, but they only made some suggestions and comments about the government's proposals. Once the meeting ended, however, the mayors said that they were not pleased with the results, adding that they would immediately hold a meeting with all the mayors, councilmen, and demobilized RN members who had participated in the takeover of El Rama highway. They also said that they would adopt specific measures immediately after the meeting.

We will contact you again as soon as Mrs. Chamorro begins her news conference at the Nicaraguan Public Administration Institute in Juigalpa, Chontales.

More on Region 5 Mayors Meeting

PA2211040390 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2210 GMT 21 Nov 90

[News conference by President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo, and Cabinet members with local and international reporters; moderated by Danilo Lacayo, director of information and press of the Presidency; at the Nicaraguan Public Administration Institute in Juigalpa—live]

[Text] [Danilo Lacayo] The news conference by the president and her Cabinet is to report on the Nicaraguan Government's actions during the Cabinet session held here in Juigalpa, and the pledges made by the government during the dialogue with the Region 5 mayors.

First, we will hear the Minister of the Presidency Miguel Antonio Lacayo, who will summarize the day's events, and then President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, or any of the ministers, will answer questions. Mr. Lacayo.

[Antonio Lacayo] Good afternoon friends of the local and foreign media. We held a fruitful and productive Cabinet session for approximately three hours this morning. It is the first session that President Chamorro's government has held outside of Managua. It was precisely in Juigalpa that the president began her political

campaign in September 1989, and it is also the place where the government held its first Cabinet session outside Managua. Other Cabinet sessions will be held in other regions of the country.

All the ministers and directors of the government's autonomous enterprises had been invited to the cabinet session. The regional delegates of the ministers and directors of autonomous entities in the Region 5 were also invited, along with the Region 5 mayors and military authorities.

The main purpose of this session was to talk with regional and municipal authorities. The Directorate of Information and Press issued a communique on 17 November, and point number four of the communique says that during the Cabinet session to be held in Juigalpa on 21 November, the government will reveal the necessary measures to implement the agreements achieved with the mayors yesterday. Throughout the session various Cabinet ministers explained to the regional and municipal authorities the plans, projects, and programs that are being or will be carried out in the region with funds from the budget.

We heard reports from the minister of construction and transportation, the director of the Nicaraguan Water and Sewage Institute [INAA], the director of the Nicaraguan Institute of Energy [INE], the director of Telcor [Nicaraguan Telecommunications and Postal Services], the minister of Agriculture and Livestock, the director of Irena [Institute of Natural Resources], the minister of education, and the director of the Nicaraguan Sports Institute. They all explained the projects that are under way in the region and the ones that are upcoming.

We also received information from the Nicaraguan Institute for Agrarian Reform on the land that that has been turned over to demobilized Nicaraguan Resistance [RN] members in this region. Approximately 139,000 manzanas are at the disposal of 3,500 demobilized RN members in this region.

We also learned about the proposal prepared by the national, excuse me, the regional agrarian commission on 7 November during a session held here in Juigalpa. The proposal was sent to the president of the Republic so that an additional 33,500 manzanas could be distributed among approximately 1,300 demobilized RN members to solve the problems in Camoapa and El Rama.

The Presidency accepted this recommendation and has ordered the Nicaraguan Agrarian Reform Institute to follow through.

This means that 172,600 manzanas have been assigned to approximately 4,800 demobilized people. These are the demobilized people of the region. We are taking similar measures in other parts of the country.

In addition to this, the agreement reached with the mayors has been made public. This agreement calls for reviewing decree 54-90 of the National Agrarian Commission. It also calls for including municipal mayors in municipal agrarian commissions. These commissions will be in charge of making recommendations to regional agrarian commissions, which will make recommendations to the national commission. This is something the mayors had demanded.

In addition to this, while here, we were informed of a Government Ministry announcement about reinstating the rural police in this region and about that ministry's reorganization program, which will have an effect on many Government Ministry employees, especially the those in the police force.

We have also been informed about the announcement made by the authorities of the Sandinist Peoples Army [EPS] who, in compliance with instructions given by the president, will substantially reduce their military presence in this region before the end of the year. The EPS' force reduction in the area will be conducted as follows: 40 percent of the officers in this region will retire before the end of the year, as part of the planned reduction of 5,000 EPS officers. Five hundred officers in this region will be retiring. This represents a 40-percent reduction for the region.

The EPS has also announced that there are 34 military installations in Region 5. Eighteen of these will be turned over to the Presidency, which will use them for social and community service programs. This means that only 16 military installations will be left in this region.

This represents a reduction of more than 50 percent of the military installations. Of the six installations in Boaco, only three will remain; of the six in Santo Tomas, only two will remain; of the seven in Rama, only three will remain; of the eight that exist in Juigalpa, only five will remain; and of the seven in Nueva Guinea, only three will remain. This equals 16 active military installations, and 18 nonmilitary installations.

We have also been informed of the president's announcement that these installations will be used by the Nicaraguan Institute for Municipal Development to provide social services in the region. The mayors of the region must present their plans so that we can decide which ones are the best.

We also learned about the announcement by the president concerning the 27 November visit of former Costa Rican President Oscar Arias Sanchez, who promoted the Esquipulas agreements and the Central American peace plan. During this visit, the president will establish the National Disarmament Commission, whose main objective will be to disarm civilians.

We believe that this commission will be very important. It will have a nationwide presence; it will have offices at the regional level and, of course, at the municipal level. Municipal and church authorities, and even international authorities, such as the International Support and

Verification Commission [CIAV], which has been tasked with carrying out this disarmament, will participate.

President Violeta Chamorro also signed a bill that will be sent to the National Assembly tomorrow to ensure that those RN members left disabled or orphaned will receive the assistance that the government committed itself to during the Toncontin agreements and Managua protocols. In an official and legal manner, President Chamorro submitted this law to the National Assembly for approval. The law also consists of an addendum to the old Decree 14-88 which makes the government commitment official.

Today we also signed a decree creating the Social Emergency Investment Fund, FISE. The decree calls for an autonomous government institution to channel all the social emergency aid that we are requesting from the international community. President Chamorro mentioned this at the United Nations.

This fund will channel the international aid to create jobs, train workers, and support all types of temporary social projects. The fund will last five years. This was also one of the commitments that we made at the economic and social dialogue at the Olof Palme Convention Center in late October. This will ensure that Nicaragua will receive additional help for our emergency programs. The $10 million provided by AID [Agency for International Development] in an agreement signed in late September will be used as the initial capital.

This will create (?20,000) jobs in the country's municipalities. It has been reported that eight municipalities in Region 5 have already presented 25 projects for road and sewer repairs, expansion of water pipes, school repairs, and medical supplies. Nine other municipalities have not yet presented any projects, and they have been urged to do so as soon as possible to help their municipalities.

We also learned about Labor Ministry projects to train disabled people with funds provided by The Netherlands. These funds will primarily benefit Region 5 because most of the country's disabled are here.

The Cabinet meeting was adjourned and then we briefly reviewed the mayors' most important demands. We concluded that with the exception of some points that must be handled by the National Assembly, such as points seven, eight, and 10, all the other points have been largely resolved, as the announcements made today by the president and some ministers shows. This means we are resolving the country's problems through dialogue and negotiations.

At the end of the meeting, the president delivered a brief message to the mayors, the regional authorities, and the ministers. She called for increased communication between us and for the improvement of existing mechanisms. She called on us to have closer contact with the municipal, regional, and national authorities so that when problems arise solutions can be found. She also urged us to study development plans by international organizations, and to coordinate everything for the benefit of the people of these municipalities and this important region of the country.

[Danilo Lacayo] We will now take your questions.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] Resistance around the cathedral, demonstrating their disapproval of the agreement. I would like to know if this disapproval was discussed in the Cabinet meeting and what do you think of the mayors' attitudes. Do you think it is correct and responsible?

[Chamorro] We were not told anything. I do not know what they are thinking if they are thinking about demonstrating. We have reached an agreement. We are very united. We are working on a solution. Remember that we Nicaraguans believe in unity and we all want to work in all the departments and regions. I want to announce that next month we will hold a meeting in a Matagalpa hotel. I believe that a [words indistinct] must come out of that meeting.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct]?

[Antonio Lacayo] I would like to add something, because I think it is important. Various work commissions, including the president herself, have spoken with the mayors. The mayor's main objectives were the reduction of the military presence in the region and a solution to the land problem of the demobilized resistance people.

I think that the announcement about 40 percent of the Army officers retiring and half of the military installations being utilized for community services institutions is good evidence of the government's will to reduce the military presence here. This has been done in coordination with the Army, which has been working on these plans for some time.

Regarding the demobilized people, it is a fact that 33,000 manzanas have been added to the 139,000 manzanas which they already have. This means that more than 172,000 manzanas will be at the disposal of more than 4,800 demobilized men. This shows that we are on the way to solving problems.

I think that in this region there are no more than 3,000 demobilized people whose problems have not been resolved.

We think that many of them will be moving to other regions of the country, since they are not from this region. The solution to their problem might be in another region, like Region 6 perhaps.

We believe that resolving the problem of 4,800 of the 20,000 people who were demobilized is a very high percentage for this region.

According to data we have, when the disarmament process ended, 5,000 or 6,000 out of a total of 20,000 demobilized people were in this region.

So we feel that we are making progress, and that there is an channel open which will be strengthened. That channel is the National Agrarian Commission. It will solve any new problem or situation which has not been satisfactorily settled.

That is why we say that the two main issues that were complained about the most have been settled, and as cabinet ministers, we think this is very important.

[Danilo Lacayo] Now that Gustavo Tablada [Minister of the Agrarian Reform National Institute] is here with us, I would like him to briefly explain land distribution here in Region 5. Dr. Tablada:

[Tablada] At the Cabinet meeting we focused on the land demand of the demobilized RN members. We have met with three or four groups of RN members. This map, which the Presidency Press and Information Office is going to distribute, clearly shows how the land has been distributed in Region 5. The map shows how much land each of the different groups has received. We have distributed a total of 172,000 manzanas of land to almost 5,000 former fighters. This is what we have done here. Later we will report on the rest. I could boast that the amount of land that the INRA [National Institute for Agrarian Reform] is going to distribute to the demobilized contras throughout the country is going to be about 400,000 manzanas.

[Danilo Lacayo] [Words indistinct].

[Reporter] If the demobilized contras are given land now, it is going to be a rather long time until they harvest their first crop. Are they going to be given some sort of aid in the meantime? What is going to be done? Second, did the mayors guarantee that after these talks they will not resort to coercive measures again?

[Danilo Lacayo] Tablada is going to answer your first question, and I believe that [words indistinct].

[Tablada] Regarding your first question, I can tell you that certain procedures have been coordinated with the CIAV [International Commission of Support and Verification]. As the government grants land legally to the demoblized contras, CIAV will immediately begin providing other assistance, which will consist of seeds, food, and farming tools. [Words indistinct] as a state institution, and using international aid that we received through the world food program, will, starting next year, supply most of the peasants included in the agrarian reform program with five food products: corn, beans, oil, meat, and I believe, rice. We are going to supply five products. This will help the demobilized contras until they begin their harvesting.

[Danilo Lacayo] [Minister of Government] Carlos Hurtado.

[Hurtado] Regarding the second part of your question, President Chamorro asked the mayors to channel their protests [words indistinct] that they also be channeled through the path of dialogue, taking advantage of the government's willingness to listen to their requests.

I want to clarify that today's sessions were not negotiations. It was a Cabinet session that served to inform the various mayors about the different ministry projects. We spoke to them about a number of issues mentioned by Engineer Lacayo in which it was made clear what steps the government was going to take. I also want to mention that at the end of the meeting, President Chamorro ordered the immediate release of those who had been arrested in connection with these incidents. I want to explain that some people were arrested in connection with other incidents and that is why they have not been released. The people whose release was ordered by the president have already given their testimony and by now they should be free, or will be soon.

[Danilo Lacayo] I would like to add to what the government minister has said. President Chamorro has promised to respect each and every one of the mayors and the people involved in these events. This point was perhaps overlooked by the government minister. No one will be arrested for having taken part in these protests. Mrs. Talavera of BARRICADA.

[Talavera] My question is for Engineer Hurtado. Would he explain a bit more about the government ministry's role in the area of the police, for example, and what is planned in connection with today's presidential announcement?

[Hurtado] There is a Government Ministry restructuring and reorganization program—completely different, but following along the same lines of updating the ministry's needs. I had mentioned that for some time this has been planned and will be implemented soon. All this will be made public later on. The other point concerns the appointment, before the end of the year, of civilian delegates to represent the Government Ministry in each department capital and at each at muncipality. Currently, Government Ministry civilian delegates are only at the regional level.

[Danilo Lacayo] The next three questions will be in the following order: UPI's Mr. Mora, NOTIMEX's Mr. Felipe, and Radio Sandino's Diego Centella.

[Mora] I would like to ask you whether you notice a certain inconsistency in the fact that Aristides Sanchez's case is still being investigated and remains open, while on the other hand, a group of people who are responsible for the death of several policemen in Sebaco have been released?

[Hurtado] In the case of Mr. Sanchez, I hope I was sufficiently clear. Yesterday, I explained that he left the country at the president's request. The president did so on humanitarian grounds because Sanchez had to undergo heart surgery. His case remains open and pending. In other words his case will still be pursued in the courts. Regarding your second question, certain people are being released because we have determined

that they had nothing to do with the death of the Sebaco policemen. They were investigated and consequently are being freed. There is also a list of five people in Rama city, and if investigations prove their innocence, they will also be freed.

[Mora] [Question indistinct]?

[Hurtado] Pardon, I could not hear you.

[Mora] The case of [words indistinct].

[Hurtado] Of course, that will not go unpunished.

[Danilo Lacayo] Go ahead, Felipe.

[Felipe] I wanted to know what guarantees we have that these types of incidents will not happen again, because on their way out of the meeting, we asked the mayors whether they will erect barricades again and they replied that it is up to the people. The mayors left open the possibility of events like these reoccurring. Also, I wonder if Minister Hurtado has any information regarding a report published by a local newspaper that the highway is blocked in northern Nicaragua and that certain facilities are occupied in Camoapa and Boaca. I would like to know whether he has any information in this regard.

[Hurtado] We have information that problems in the north, specifically in Quilali, San Juan de Rio Coco, and other municipalities, have been resolved.

[Felipe] [Words indistinct] Camoapa and Boaco.

[Hurtado] We understand that there are no problems in Camoapa and Boaco. Perhaps in Camoapa...

[Felipe, interrupting] [Question indistinct]?

[Hurtado] Well, it is true that Boaco does not have any barricade, but some facilities are still occupied. We understand, however, that this situation is being resolved.

[Chamorro] As for the question about the mayors and future actions being decided by the people, I think that the mayors will say good things, and that they will not spread untruths, because we want unity and reconciliation here. Blocking the highways is not productive.

You, the people of the press, report to the world that things are not going well. We want things to go smoothly here. We want great communications between the people, the press, and all Nicaraguans. I hope that the mayors will say good things to the people because we have spoken the truth and said what is in our hearts.

[Danilo Lacayo] Diego Centella of Radio Sandino.

[Centella] Minister Hurtado, I would like you to explain the order issued by Mrs. Chamorro today to release all those involved in the recent incidents, especially in Region 5. Will those who are responsible for the murder of the policemen in Sebaco also be released?

[Hurtado] I believe that an explanation is absolutely needed. Nobody involved in the deaths of the policemen has been released. The investigations are continuing. A person thought to be directly involved in the death, however, was arrested yesterday. This person, who has not demobilized and is obviously linked to the incidents in Region 5, is under investigation.

[Danilo Lacayo] Thank you very much. Good afternoon. We will end the news conference now.

Mayors 'Not Satisfied' With Chamorro Measures

PA2211163990 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1255 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] The mayors of Boaco, Chontales and Central Zelaya are not safisfied with the measures announced by President Chamorro. Juigalpa Mayor Isaac Deleo said at the end of the cabinet meeting in Juigalpa that the mayors are not satisfied with the announced measures because they were not allowed to discuss the 13 demands they presented.

Deleo said that the meeting was inconclusive as nothing was mentioned about the changes of government officials surrounding President Chamorro. Those who run the government were born into wealthy families, while we were born into humble homes. That is why they do not understand us, Deleo stressed.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] What do you think about the results of the cabinet meeting in which the mayors of region 5 participated?

[Deleo] For us, particularly for me, it was inconclusive. I believe that the decrees signed by President Chamorro will benefit the people. The truth, however, is that all matters were not discussed.

[Reporter] Could you be more specific?

[Deleo] Mayors from other regions feel that some matters must be discussed by the Assembly and that whatever is discussed now will benefit the movement. I believe that the two draft bills signed are excellent.

[Reporter] Could you give us some details?

[Deleo] One of them calls for an expansion of a 1984 decree protecting war wounded from the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front], in other words, from the Sandinist People's Army [EPS]. Now President Chamorro has expanded it to protect war wounded from the Nicaraguan Resistance [RN], which I think is excellent.

[Reporter] Mayor [name indistinct] said that he was satisfied as some of the main points, such as the problems with the ministers, were discussed. Do you feel the same way?

[Deleo] That is right. We are not satisfied, but that does not mean that we cannot do anything about it. The general opinion is that we are not satisfied. Why?

Because we have a list of demands with 12 points, so we will not be satisfied until those 12 points are discussed and solved.

[Reporter] Are you unhappy about the demand concerning the ministers?

[Deleo] I beg your pardon?

[Reporter] The point about the ministers.

[Deleo] No. We believe that some individuals who are hampering the president's work should be replaced.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Deleo] That was one of our demands.

[Reporter] What will be the next step by the mayors' movement?

[Deleo] We are preparing a nationwide mayors meeting. The place, time, and day have not yet been decided. One thing, however, must be made clear. We will continue proclaiming to the world that our movement is entirely civic and that for no reason will we use violence.

[Reporter] Will this civic movement call for mounting more barricades?

[Deleo] No.

[Reporter] Are the barricades over?

[Deleo] Yes. There is an impasse. The barricades ended because there were talks. If anything was accomplished with Mrs. Chamorro's visit here it was the fact that there were talks. We have to say, however, that no definite agreements were reached. The government has politicians who are experts in that field.

[Reporter] Do you think that your lack of experience prevented you from reaching an agreement with them regarding your demands?

[Deleo] Listen to me. We are humble people, born from humble families. That is why we sympathize with those humble people. We feel their needs deep in our hearts. Mrs. Chamorro has expressed the same feelings. She is surrounded, however, by people who think differently. They are aristocrats who were born into wealthy families who do not like to be near people who are not in their class. We do not have that problem. We can live and coexist with them.

[Reporter] Do you think that there is resentment on the part of RN members because only the mayors were allowed to participate in the meeting while delegates from the demobilized contras could not participate?

[Deleo] Definitely. They are very resentful. I can understand their feelings, because they should have been present.

[Reporter] What will be the consequences?

[Deleo] We mayors want peaceful solutions. We have no problems with the RN. I am sure that as mayors we have contributed to solving some of the government's problems. [end recording]

Former Contras Take Over 6th Town in Region 1

PA2111180290 Managua Sistema Nacional de Television Network in Spanish 0330 GMT 21 Nov 90

[From the independent "Extravision" newscast]

[Text] A group of former rebels, unhappy with the government's failure to abide by its agreements, are blocking the road leading to Murra. The takeover of this municipality brings to six the number of Region 1 towns that are paralyzed and held without communications.

For the past 11 days, the Quilali Municipality has been without public or private transportation. The situation is the same in San Juan de Rio Coco, Jicaro, and Murra. All the public offices in these cities are under the control of former contras and activists of the defunct UNO [National Opposition Union], who support the stance of Vice President Virgilio Godoy.

As for San Juan de Rio Coco—and in the face of government indifference—the former rebels have threatened to extend their protests until the government meets their demands for land, fires Commander Cristian Pichardo and Regional Police Chief Commander Orlando Aguilera, and makes modifications in the local police staff.

It was reported that the UNO Political Council and some farmers in San Juan del Rio Coco decided to stop supporting the former rebels, announcing they disagree with the actions being promoted because they are causing them huge economic losses. Moreover, the grave danger exists that the coffee harvest may be lost if the highways remain blocked and the public offices paralyzed.

Whereas the government ordered that the roads be cleared in Region 5 and other municipalities, Region 1 authorities have not received any order enabling the return of normalcy to the four northern municipalities.

Contras End Occupation of 2 Churches

PA2211025890 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1917 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Managua, 21 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—Following an agreement reached between Arde [Democratic Revolutionary Alliance] southern front former contras and Violeta Chamorro's government, tens of Nicaraguans abandoned the two Catholic churches which they occupied a few weeks ago.

The Nicaraguans who occupied the "Las Sierritas de Santo Domingo" and "El Calvario" churches were asking the government for an in-depth investigation into the 9 and 10 November violent incidents in Yolaina, in

the southern Atlantic coast area of the country. During those violent incidents six persons were killed and 31 were wounded.

The agreement, which ended the occupation of the churches—one of which is sometimes used as the provisional cathedral of Managua—was signed by Deputy Government Minister Jose Pallais and representatives of the International Commission of Support and Verification, the OAS, Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, and the southern front.

According to the agreements, a commission will investigate the Yolaina incidents, establish responsibilities, and decide who will be remanded to the judicial authorities.

Likewise, the parties will review the agreements in which the government commits itself to give land and financial support programs for the former contras of the southern front as well as guarantees for their right to return to civilian life.

The former fighters reorganized the rural police that had been disbanded by the Government Ministry. The rural police is composed of former members of the Arde southern front.

The government also released three members of the former Arde southern front.

Former Contras Seize Macuelizo, Hold Officials

PA2211223890 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1823 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Demobilized Nicaraguan Resistance [RN] members and people living in the communities near Macuelizo, Nueva Segovia Department [Region 1], seized the town and are holding several government officials hostage.

The demobilized contras are demanding the dismissal of the pro- Sandinist mayor and his councilmen and compliance with the agreements signed by the government and the demobilized forces. Radio Nicaragua was told this by Ramon Ariel Lang, municipal delegate of the Ministry of Education. According to Ariel Lang, the demobilized fighters reject the presence of the police and the Army; therefore, they ask the authorities not to send troops so as to avoid jeopardizing their welfare. He has asked the government authorities, however, to comply immediately with the demands of the demobilized fighters so that the atmosphere of tension in Macuelizo will subside.

The officials who are being held hostage by the former RN members include local school teachers, local municipal officials, employees of the Nicaraguan Telecommunications and Postal Services, and health services and court employees.

Hurtado Discusses Destabilization 'Movement'

PA2111143290 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1203 GMT 21 Nov 90

["Excerpt" of statement made by Government Minister Carlos Hurtado during a news conference in Managua on 20 November—recorded]

[Text] During the incident on the highway to El Rama in Region 5, we began obtaining information about another movement which was being organized. The purpose of that movement was quite different than the purpose of the mayors' movement. It was extremely dangerous for the stability of the country and government.

From the information we had, it was very clear that Dr. Aristides Sanchez Herdocia was involved and was practically directing the entire movement, including the movement of the mayors. Then, on the night of 14 November, it was decided to arrest him in view of the information we had.

I want to clarify that we had picked up information about several movements and coded messages [3-second break in reception] that this movement was being coordinated in an overall manner. We picked up information and messages that indicated people were being mobilized to certain areas of the country for the purpose of taking over highways and institutions.

On that same day, 14 November, people were mobilized in trucks from Managua to Nagarote, where they occupied some government offices such as Telcor [Nicaragua Telecommunciations and Postal Services], the Education Ministry, INSSBI [Nicaraguan Social Security and Welfare Institute], and so forth. In addition, more persons were sent from Managua to [word indistinct], Granada where they seized the mayor's office, and to Masaya where they occupied some churches. In the northern part of the country, groups occupied offices in El Jicaro, roadblocks were set up between San Juan and (Rio Soto), (Danesa) and Quilali, and perhaps other areas that escape my memory right now.

All this occurred on 14 November. Based on the information we had, it was evident that in addition to the negotiations being conducted with the mayors, it was necessary to take some action.

Aristides Sanchez Denies Charges

PA2211230090 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1822 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Aristides Sanchez Herdocia, who was recently accused by the Government Ministry of being involved in illegal activities, called a local radio station from Miami and said that he will return to the country soon. In strict compliance with the truth, Sanchez denied that he was ever questioned—much less tortured—by Lenin Cerna, chief of the State Security General Directorate. He says that he had not even seen Cerna.

Sanchez denied that he feels like an exile and added: This could be considered banishment but I will return to the country soon. My lawyers are working on this, Sanchez said, referring to his lawyer Oscar Herdocia Lacayo.

Reports in Managua said that Aristides Sanchez was hospitalized and semi-unconscious because he had reportedly been injected with strange substances, yet he talked eloquently on the telephone during a Radio Corporacion newscast. During the interview he said that he will return to the country to face justice and to prove that he is innocent, but if he must face a trial, is found guilty, and sentenced to jail, then he will do so for the Nicaraguan people.

Panama

U.S. Secretary Baker To Meet Endara 24 Nov

PA2311023590 Panama City EL SIGLO in Spanish 22 Nov 90 pp 1, 8

[Text] Panama City—It was learned here today that U.S. Secretary of State James Baker will make a stopover in Panama on 24 November to meet with President Guillermo Endara.

Baker will arrive here on his way back from Bogota. The purpose of his visit is to discuss with President Endara Panama's reluctance to sign the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty. Panama has refused to sign the treaty because it involves activities that are considered crimes in the United States, but not in Panama, such as tax evasion, for which the punishment is a jail sentence in the United States.

Diplomatic observers accredited in Panama view Baker's unexpected visit to Panama to meet with President Endara and his government team as a clear sign of the importance that the Bush administration gives the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty 11 months after a U.S. military invasion ousted General Manuel Antonio Noriega's dictatorial government. The Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty would enable U.S. agencies to request information on any type of crime, including fiscal violations that are not considered crimes in Panama. In addition, the treaty would in fact end the strict banking secrecy that protects clients of the Panamanian Banking Center.

Baker will arrive at Howard Air Force Base in Panama from Bogota, Colombia on a technical stopover, and will take advantage of the opportunity to discuss matters of bilateral interest. Baker is currently accompanying President Bush on a tour in the Persian Gulf. He will travel from Cairo to Bogota over the weekend to meet with Colombian President Cesar Gaviria in an effort to convince him to support the U.S. position at the UN Security Council. Political analysts agree that Baker's unexpected trip to Panama clearly demonstrates the importance that the Bush administration accords the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty. The delay in signing the treaty is also holding up the delivery of $84 million of the promised U.S. economic aid, a situation that has complicated the handling of diplomatic relations between the two countries. Panamanian professional and banking associations are opposed to the inclusion of the so-called U.S. fiscal crimes, alleging that they are not contemplated in Panama's penal code. Negotiations for the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty are receiving serious attention in the local and foreign press as a result of the disclosure that President Guillermo Endara was director and shareholder of Interbanco, a Panamanian bank accused by the DEA [Drug Enforcement Administration] of laundering millions of dollars from the Colombian drug cartels. The links between President Endara and other personalities to Interbanco, as well as recent reports on alleged money laundering in the Colon Free Zone and other U.S. criminal investigations in Panama, demonstrate how serious the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty is for the Bush administration.

Baker's visit also coincides with the deterioration of relations between the Panamanian Government and state unions, which have called a general strike for 5 December.

The belligerence of labor leaders, who are trying to prevent amendments to current laws and to force the government into paying the 13th-month bonus, could lead to violence in view of the rejection of those demands by high government officials.

Political and diplomatic observers have expressed to EL SIGLO their fears that the frail Panamanian democracy could fall due to the weakness of the democratic government. A diplomat accredited in Panama said: "Unless Endara and his government team assume the government's leadership as one and implement an effective government plan, the Bush administration could be forced to withdraw its economic aid, which would further aggravate Panama's precarious situation."

Chorrillo Residents Picket U.S. Embassy

PA2211050190 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 19 Nov 90

[Text] Chorrillo residents picketed outside the U.S. Embassy on Balboa Avenue this morning to demand a 30,000-balboa indemnity for each family as well as other things. U.S. Ambassador Deane Hinton received a delegation of Chorrillo residents to discuss their demands. Once the meeting was over, representatives who spoke with the ambassador appeared optimistic when explaining details of the meeting.

[Begin unidentified spokesman recording] The end result was as follows: Mr. Dean [U.S. AID official] promised to meet at the Penonome [Building] at 1400 with all the people from the area, ranging from 22d to 12th Street; part of Santa Ana, which includes the Huerta de Sandoval and Patio Pinel neighborhoods. They are going to reply to us, and we hope that their answer to it will be positive. They have hinted they are only going to take

care of the cracked walls—no sir! We want $800 to cover our household goods. We are not backing down from our demands. We also want a minimum of 30,000 [currency not specified] due to the Panama invasion. Gentlemen, they fed Noriega, they fed the military who in turn oppressed us, and there is nothing more to say. [end recording]

The demonstrators finally left the area peacefully while shouting slogans regarding a solution to their problem.

Editorial Applauds Relations With USSR

PA2111215690 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 18 Nov 90 p 1

[From the "As of Today" column]

[Text] The canal demands very prudent and discreet international conduct on our part. The reason is obvious: The canal serves all nations of the world, and therefore Panama must maintain friendly relations with all of them, without exception. To the extent that we get along well with the rest of the world, we will guarantee the country's security and the interoceanic waterway, which we know cannot be defended militarily. As we assume more responsibilities in the administration of the canal, we must mature politically. Looking forward to the year 2000, we must now try to avoid having enemies. This means that from now on we must be very careful about what we say at international forums and refrain from doing or saying anything that could be offensive to another country. It is within that overall picture that we must view the establishment of diplomatic relations with the USSR, which we applaud without reservations. These relations are necessary because it is one of the two superpowers in the world and because it is one of the canal's most important clients. In addition, that country has a lot to offer us in the areas of science, arts, and literature, as well as in trade. It is now up to us to take advantage of this good initiative from the national government.

Labor Leaders Reiterate Call To Strike on 5 Dec

PA2211034990 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 20 Nov 90

[Passages in italics are recorded]

[Text] The labor union organizations that support the 5 December strike call reiterated their belligerent stand at a news conference today [20 November]. Despite the fact that political and economic sectors of the country have questioned the labor unions' movement, the leaders of the public and private sector labor organizations reiterated their call to strike. They said that the government can give positive answers to their demands.

Government representatives have said, however, that there is not enough money to pay the 13th month bonus to public workers, that it is necessary to amend some articles of the labor code, and that other actions must be adopted to enable the country to emerge from the current crisis. Carlos Winter, of the Union of Workers of the Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrification, stated the following:

[Winter] *It seems that this is the only thing we can do to compel the government to sit down with us to negotiate the problems regarding the violation of our rights.*

[Reporter] *The government and other sectors are wondering about the rank-and-file support of this movement.*

[Winter] *Well, that remains to be seen.*

The taxi and bus transportation worker leaders have reiterated their support for the strike. Nonetheless, the rank-and-file sector appears to have a different position.

[Reporter] *Bus transportation worker leaders have called for a strike on 5 December. What is your position on this? Will you be willing to paralyze your bus service?*

[Unidentified bus driver] *Well no, we never oppose the government, we always support it.*

[Unidentified taxi driver] *Transportation service must continue to be provided because it is a public service. It cannot be involved politically; therefore, we do not support the strike.*

[Unidentified bus driver] *You know that this is a business that cannot be interrupted.*

The workers of the Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrification staged a protest at 1430 in front of the Poli office building premises, demanding payment of the 13th month bonus. The protest was also a a prelude to the march and strike planned for 4 and 5 December, respectively.

The National Civic Crusade views with concern the action of the public and private labor leaders and noted that they seek to destabilize and attack democracy. Fernando Boyd, of the National Civic Crusade, said the following:

[Boyd] *There are individuals who will attempt to capitalize on the problems suffered by the Panamanian people to make profits. We will never permit this.*

Planning and Economic Policy Minister Guillermo Ford today emphasized the government's firm stand. Any public worker who participates in the strike, which has been termed illegal, will simply be dismissed.

[Ford] *There will be a Cabinet council meeting tomorrow, and I am sure we are going to discuss that topic. I reiterate that it must not be taken as a threat. It is a warning. If the strike is not justified, if it is not legal, corrective measures must be adopted to prevent workers from going out on the street. I do not want them to take it as a threat, but as a warning that they must do their job. If they are being paid by the government, they are being paid to work.*

Argentina

Thatcher Departure Not To Affect Falklands

PY2211194290 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1826 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Nov (TELAM)—President Carlos Menem has said: "We must not expect too much" from British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's resignation because it will not influence the treatment being given to the Malvinas Islands sovereignty issue. He explained that British foreign policy is invariable.

He added: "There may be formal changes, but regarding substantial matters, the UK does not change its proposals at the international level, no matter who the prime minister is." In this regard, he said: "British foreign policy has been constant."

Menem granted an interview to the press after the dedication of the international car exhibition being held in the Costanera Sur District, Buenos Aires. Asked about a possible flexibility in the British position on the Malvinas, Menem answered: "We cannot expect too much. We must continue to work relentlessly to recover the Malvinas."

Cavallo Praises Thatcher's 'Constructive Spirit'

PY2211130690 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1226 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Nov (NA)—In connection with the resignation of the UK head of government, Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo today praised the "constructive spirit" that inspired UK Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher during the negotiations aimed at reestablishing diplomatic relations with Argentina.

"Ever since President Menem courageously launched the challenge of beginning a dialogue to reestablish diplomatic relations, Mrs. Thatcher's actions have been inspired by a truly constructive spirit," Cavallo said. Speaking on the radio, Cavallo pointed out: "Thus, just a few months later we were able to come up with a formula to reestablish diplomatic relations."

After being informed of the resignation of the UK prime minister, Argentina's foreign minister stated: "We certainly cannot issue opinions on domestic affairs in the UK." He added, however: "This outcome had been predicted by British analysts if she failed to win the first round of party elections, which would have allowed her to retain the leadership of the Conservative Party."

He said: "Many people believed that she would not participate in the runoff—although at some point she said she would—and now we have her resignation."

'Scoop' on UK Expansion of Exclusion Zone Denied

PY2211120090 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1042 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Nov (DYN)—Argentine Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo and British Ambassador to Argentina Humphrey Maud today denied that the UK had unilaterally decided to expand the exclusion zone around the Malvinas Islands.

Cavallo said that this report "was published as a scoop by a morning newspaper today, but it was something that Great Britain had decided to do in 1986." Cavallo pointed out that the exclusion zone was lifted in February this year when diplomatic relations were restored.

The Argentine foreign minister also emphasized that maritime jurisdiction around the Malvinas Islands is not on the agenda of the negotiations currently under way because this issue is protected by the "umbrella." The negotiators are discussing "methods of cooperating in the fishing sector to prevent the depredation" of seafood species.

Cavallo said that "the campaign orchestrated by people interested in showing that the dialogue (with Great Britain) is pointless" is responsible for this report.

UK Envoy Confirms Cavallo Remarks

PY2211132790 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1150 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Nov (NA)—UK Ambassador to Argentina Humphrey Maud "fully" agreed today with Argentine Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo, who denied that the UK had unilaterally expanded the exclusive economic zone around the Malvinas Islands.

The diplomat stated that his country "has not sent any note" to Argentina lately, denying yet another aspect of a media report which said that on 13 November the UK Foreign Office had notified Argentina of this alleged unilateral decision.

"I fully agree with the foreign minister," Maud said, after hearing Minister Cavallo's statement on the radio. Asked whether there had been any communication concerning the expansion of the exclusive economic zone, Maud answered: "Absolutely not."

On the subject of the talks that will resume in Madrid tomorrow and the day after, the UK ambassador said that he hoped for a "sensible solution" and emphasized that "the atmosphere at the negotiations is good."

He finally stressed that the discussions are focused on the preservation of maritime species because "there is a lot of activity by ships from third countries."

Regarding UK Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's decision to resign, Maud said he had no precise information but pointed out that Thatcher had not managed to obtain

the two-thirds of the vote at the latest Conservative Party convention that she needed to maintain her leadership.

UK Envoy Does Not View Fishing as Obstacle

PY2211025890 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1711 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 21 Nov (TELAM)—British Ambassador to Argentina Humphrey Maud has dismissed the possibility that the fishing problem could represent a "crisis or obstacle" in relations between the two countries; at the same time, he reported the interest expressed by British investors in establishing joint ventures [preceding two words in English] with Argentina.

Although he admitted that fishing is a "sensitive" issue, he voiced his "confidence that the friendship between the two countries will make it possible to reach a sensible agreement because it is in the economic interests of both countries."

In a statement to the media before attending a luncheon organized by the Rotary Club at the Plaza Hotel in Buenos Aires, Maud stated that the main purpose of Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo's upcoming visit "is to set up a very important commercial commission that will undoubtedly find new ways to step up Argentine exports," as well as attract British investors.

In a speech prepared for the occasion, a copy of which was given to the journalists who were present, the British ambassador noted that "1990 has been a landmark year" for the renewal of relations, among which he mentioned "the Madrid agreements, the opening of embassies, and high-level visits."

However, the ambassador said trade has been "the spinal cord of the new relationship, which has made genuine progress in both directions", noting that "for the time being, it leans largely in Argentina's favor."

Maud then added that the current Argentine economic situation, "despite the exchange rate, is far from favorable for imports," although he said "there is interest and more people believe it is worth travelling to Argentina to study the market." [passage omitted]

Cavallo Comments on Relations With UK

PY2011222290 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1100 GMT 20 Nov 90

[Text] Cordoba, 20 Nov (NA)—Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo has reiterated that if the UN Security Council asks Argentina to participate in an eventual conflict in the Persian Gulf, "the issue will be submitted to Congress."

Cavallo said: "For the time being, the Argentine troops will continue to fulfill their specific assignment and will not participate in an armed conflict, as was ordered by President Menem."

Cavallo made these statements in Cordoba during a ceremony to pay homage to the memory of Pedro Astori, former president of the Mediterranean Foundation, who died four months ago.

As for relations with the United Kingdom, Cavallo said: "It is a difficult moment," adding that "it is always so when you are about to reach an agreement because parties harden their positions in an attempt to obtain some last-minute advantage."

However, Cavallo said he was optimistic "that we will reach an agreement," and he downplayed a journalist's question about the fact that the United Kingdom is not matching Argentina's conciliatory position.

Cavallo said: "I am sure the United Kingdom would have already unilaterally broadened the fishing zone if we had not promoted negotiations and if we had not shown this attitude."

The foreign minister said: "Thanks to President Menem's policies, we are talking, there have been no unilateral actions by the United Kingdom, and we are headed toward bilateral agreements."

Cavallo concluded by saying that he feels comfortable as foreign minister. He did not totally rule out, however, the possibility of running for the governorship of Cordoba, although, he said, the Justicialist Party will have the last word.

Menem 'May Help' in Arab-Israeli Conflict

PY2111180290 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1326 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Nov (TELAM)—Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo today said that President Carlos Menem "did not accept or offer to mediate" in the Arab-Israeli conflict, although he "is helping and he will continue helping as long as he is asked to."

During a conversation with journalists in Government House, Cavallo said that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir "has said that Menem may help" in the Middle East problem, but "it is nothing more than that, nobody has spoken about mediation."

Presidential Spokesman Humberto Toledo this morning said that Menem "is seriously studying" the possibility of "Shamir's suggestion that the Argentine president should in some way participate in the Arab-Israeli conflict."

Regarding the talks with the United Kingdom about fishing near the Malvinas Islands, Cavallo said that "the atmosphere of negotiations and talks is being maintained," adding that "this is why a third round of negotiations will begin on 23 November" in Madrid.

The minister added: "This demonstrates that there is willingness to make progress toward a bilateral agreement" on fishing between Argentina and the United Kingdom.

The foreign minister said this before entering Government House to meet with President Carlos Menem.

Cavallo Regrets Senator's Comments on Missile

PY2211174890 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1330 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Nov (TELAM)—Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo today expressed regret over statements made in Israel by Senator Adolfo Gass, vice president of the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee, who said that the Condor-2 missile was built by the Argentine Air Force without the knowledge of the Alfonsin administration.

In comments at Government House, Cavallo said that the statements by the UCR [Radical Civic Union] senator are not true because former President Raul Alfonsin "authorized the Condor-2 project in 1987 through a secret decree which was in turn annulled by another secret decree signed by President Carlos Menem as soon as he came to power."

Cavallo said that Gass' statements demonstrate "a great lack of knowledge in a key issue regarding the activities of a government in which he played a role." He added: "A national senator cannot go to Israel saying that it was the Air Force's fault."

The minister said that if Gass' statements were true, "the prestige of the Air Force would be affected. The vice president of the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee is not supposed to be making statements like this at a moment when Argentine policy on the subject should be absolutely clear," especially taking into account the conflict caused by the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

Cavallo said that when he was asked about the Condor-2 project during his last visit to Israel, he explained that "the Air Force dismantled the project as soon as President Menem annulled the decree signed by his predecessor." He said the project was dismantled "because Alfonsin's decree authorized the Air Force to make contracts with some companies we suspected were passing missile technology to Iraq."

Kuwait Announces Plans To Invest in Argentina

PY2011133890 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1708 GMT 18 Nov 90

[Report by Francois Lepot]

[Text] Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, 18 Nov (TELAM)—Kuwait's Electricity Minister Hamud al-Ruqba, during an exclusive interview with TELAM announced: "We will invest in Argentina in areas such as agriculture, industry, and maritime projects."

Hamud al-Ruqba visited Argentina in September. He received us in the Saudi Arabian capital, just a few kilometers from al-Ta'if where the government in exile of Amir Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah is located.

Hamud al-Ruqba is also a dean, a university professor in engineering, and the director of the Institute of Scientific Investigations. He is the youngest member in Amir Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah's Cabinet.

He is serious and has a refined sense of humor. Before answering our questions he gave a very complementary introduction, speaking about Argentina, which seems to have fascinated him, and President Carlos Menem.

Hamud al-Ruqba said: "I thank my friend Carlos Menem for his principled position on Palestine and Kuwait. Menem placed his country at the side of international law when he decided to send an intervention force to help in the economic blockade on Iraq. My meeting with Menem has helped to wall-in Saddam Husayn and will help to speed up his withdrawal from Kuwait."

"When I visited Argentina, I witnessed the ability of your president and the democratic and modern way in which he leads the beautiful and rich Argentina and its cultured and agreeable people. Argentina's development possibilities are enormous. I talked about this with President Menem who explained his policies to me. I also met with many of his assistants."

"When I said that we were looking with great interest at the possibility of implementing large joint projects for our mutual benefit I was not improvising. Shortly before the invasion, an Argentine commercial delegation visited Kuwait. Together we saw the amir and the prime minister. At that time we talked about several projects that we will develop and implement when we liberate my country."

"Besides having a talented president and good policies, you produce superb meat, which is natural, exquisite, and without chemicals. We will soon import your meat to Kuwait," the minister said.

He ended his introductory remarks by saying: "Carlos Menem is a great president. He has lead Argentina to participate in world programs."

Lepot: In your capacity as university professor and electricity minister you are aware of Argentina's enormous hydroelectric possibilities to produce cheap energy. Can this energy serve any of your projects?

Hamud al-Ruqba: Argentina is a vast country and investments are possible in various areas such as agriculture, industry, and maritime projects. This will be possible because of our excellent relations and Argentina's position in the defense of our cause. We have already talked about investments with the Argentine commercial delegation that visited our country. I am sure that after this crisis is over we will invest in many areas in Argentina. We know of very few countries were industrial investments look so good, but relations are very important.

Lepot: Will you return to Argentina?

Hamud al Ruqba: Yes, I would like to spend a summer there as a tourist. I would like to establish business

contacts and work with you on joint projects. I will certainly visit the country after the crisis is over.

Lepot: Are you aware that Argentina lost an important market in Iraq because if its solidarity with Kuwait?

Hamud al-Ruqba: We value and appreciate the cost of this gesture. Argentina has placed international law before commercial interests. I repeat that I am very optimistic over our future cooperation with Argentina. We have concrete ideas to develop between our two friendly countries.

Lepot: Do you see any peaceful solution to this current crisis?

Hamud al-Ruqba: Let us not despair. We are very interested in finding a peaceful way out.

The minister then talked again about "useful investments in Argentina" saying: "We will put the negative (natural resources that are not developed) together with the positive (investments) to produce something good, as power plants do with electricity."

Bidding us farewell the minister thanked us for our "interest in Kuwait and its temporary crisis" and asked us to relay his "warm greeting to President Carlos Menem."

Waterworkers Union Pulls Out of Confederation

PY2111174090 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 20 Nov 90 p 11

[Excerpt] (NA-DYN)—The internal crisis of the CGT [General Confederation of Labor]-Azopardo worsened yesterday with the "irreversible" departure of FENTOS [expansion unknown] waterworks union—one of the pillars of Saul Ubaldini's dissident labour faction.

FENTOS resolved to split with the CGT-Azopardo a week after the powerful UOM [Metalworkers Union] metalworkers union pulled out in disagreement over last Thursday's [15 November] antigovernment rally.

In turn SUTACA [Sole Trade Union of Argentine Touring Club Workers] Automobile Club employees—which voted against the "day of protest" alongside UOM, FENTOS and URGARA [expansion unknown] grain handlers—is expected to follow suit today and join the independent union ranks.

Pereyra, one of the founders of the movement known as Ubaldinismo, announced the "unanimous" decision of FENTOS directive council and national secretariat members to withdraw from the CGT-Azopardo.

Denying the departure implied a breach of loyalty towards Ubaldini, Pereyra echoed UOM's arguments in explaining its decision to quit the CGT-Azopardo: "After obtaining an interview with the President and establishing a framework of dialogue to meet our demands, we didn't think the demonstration was timely. We didn't want to call off the protest but simply postpone it," he added.

Elsewhere on the labour front:

—President Carlos Menem warned yesterday that the police crisis in Tucuman would be met with a "decisive response." Police officers in that northern province however remained holed up in precincts pending the payments of outstanding wage debts. "Measures of this sort have become a habit," said Menem adding: "It seems that Tucuman becomes a no man's land when a sector of the provincial police behaves this way and this must come to a definite halt." Meanwhile, provincial authorities announced that wage arrears would be paid tomorrow to all public employees, including the policemen. [passage omitted]

World Bank Criticizes Privatization Process

PY2011214890 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 13 Nov 90 p 6

[Report by Marcelo Bonelli]

[Text] World Bank officials have made observations on implementation of the privatization process and have made an offer to the Argentine Government to take over the future sales of energy and defense sector enterprises.

Through special agents from Washington and without a single official document so far, World Bank officials have proposed taking over all infrastructure operations and calling in the best international consulting companies to conduct the privatization process.

The proposal has emerged as a result of observations of "sloppiness" made by World Bank officials against those responsible for the sale of Entel [National Telecommunications Enterprise] and for the transfer of Argentine Airlines, which has not yet been completed.

The World Bank has not yet made a formal proposal. Thus far, it has only reached the level of a proposal by a high-level World Bank official who visited the country a week ago in an almost secret manner.

Peter Bottlelier, who is responsible for the World Bank's Latin America Department, was in Buenos Aires and met with members of the economic team. He proposed a World Bank assistance program to iron out flaws detected in the sales of the two state companies.

Bottlelier is an important agent of the World Bank "staff" [preceding word in English], who is equivalent to the influential Ted Beza in the IMF. No credit or negotiation is approved by these organizations without the approval of those two officials.

Among the observations made by the international technocrats on handling of the privatization process are:

- A lack of rules to prevent last-minute discussions when private enterprises will gain the most benefit.

- Vagueness in the list of crucial points for a sale, such as utility rates and investment policies.

- Inclusion of a clause that guarantees minimum but not maximum profits, as in other international privatizations.

- The absence of clear written guarantees that services for the people will be improved.

Bottlelier's informal proposal is reportedly awaiting an answer from the economic team, although, at this moment, prevailing government opinion is not to give up handling of the next sales of public enterprises.

Antonio Erman Gonzalez' team believes that these pressures come not only from the World Bank as an institution, but from members of the "staff."

In fact, they believe that handling of the privatizations will allow the Washington technocrats to supervise advisers and designate consultants, which implies the allowance of a large amount of money for privatizations.

Although all members of the economic team are aware of the proposal, the lack of a formal offer prevents them from commenting. "Thus far, the World Bank has not made any official proposal," [Economy] Under Secretary Carlos Carballo said, answering a question by CLARIN, without denying the report.

"The only thing I can tell you is that the World Bank is very interested in accelerating and improving the privatization process," [Treasury Under Secretary Saul] Bouer said.

Bottlelier reportedly promised not only access to "the best international advisers" to effectively carry out privatizations through the World Bank, but he also promised some type of credit.

Labor Group Finds Fault With Government Policies

PY2111221290 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 21 Nov 90 p 11

[From the "Argentina in Brief" column]

[Text] (NA)—The Pro-Government CGT [General Confederation of Labor]-San Martin labour group yesterday said it found it "difficult to support" the government's anti-inflationary economic policies. In a statement by secretary-general Guerino Andreoni, the group said all labour leaders should unit "to defend workers."

Institute Releases Statistics on Trade Surplus

PY2111221890 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 21 Nov 90 p 3

[Text] (NA)—Argentina had a 5.95 billion dollar trade surplus during the first eight months of this year, according to figures released yesterday by the National Institute of Statistics and Census (INDEC). This marks a 57.9 percent jump from the figure recorded for the same period in 1989. Exports totalled 8.33 billion dollars and imports 2.38 billion dollars.

Government To Regulate Local Grain Market

PY2211232490 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 22 Nov 90 p 3

[Excerpt] (DYN-NA)—The Government, which has based its economic policies on a commitment to free markets, yesterday decided that the National Grain Board (JNG) should intervene in the local grain market.

Economy Under Secretary Carlos Carballo defended the decision on the grounds that "the international grain market is deeply distorted because of the subsidies imposed by the European Community and the US."

He added that Argentina is expecting what could be a record grain harvest, and expressed his concern that, without intervention in the market, a surplus could depress domestic prices below levels justified by the international situation.

Carballo conceded the need to ensure that the need to ensure that the intervention did not stifle competition and allow the emergence of private monopolies. [passage omitted]

Bolivia

Paz on U.S. 'Pressure' in Antidrug Struggle

PY2211171690 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 10 Nov 90 p 1

[Excerpt] President Paz Zamora said on 9 November that Bolivia has the legal instruments necessary to determine when to use the appropriate resources (civilian, police, or military) to fight drug trafficking. He made this statement before departing for Japan, where he will attend the enthronement of the new Japanese emperor. Paz Zamora said: "The problem will not be solved through the militarization of the antidrug struggle or by forcing conditions on us. What we must do is to comply with the country's legal instruments, which are very clear and precise."

He admitted, however, that the United States has exerted pressure for Armed Forces participation in the antidrug struggle on the grounds that the project to definitively eradicate drug trafficking could be more quickly and efficiently implemented. He said: "They have really pressured us to make their viewpoints prevail, but we have our own viewpoints and projects that must be implemented. We believe in a balance of interdiction and alternate development. Above all, we stand by the thesis of coca for development." [passage omitted]

Capobianco: Proceedings Against President 'Crazy'

PY2211153090 La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 1100 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Interior Minister Guillermo Capobianco has said that the petition presented for the impeachment of President Jaime Paz Zamora is crazy. Capobianco said the Senate has accepted reports from the foreign minister and interior minister on sending Luis Arce Gomez to the United States.

[Begin Capobianco recording] Regarding the petition to determine the president's responsibility in the case, as submitted by an opposition deputy, I must recall that on 16 January the national Senate approved a decree authorizing [words indistinct]. I will leave here a copy of the decree. This resolution was approved by a unanimous decision. High-ranking leaders of the MNR [Nationalist Revolutionary Movement], such as Senators Nuflo Chavez Ortiz and Eudoro Galindo, participated in drawing up the resolution approving the executive branch's report on the political decision to expel, evict, or deliver Arce Gomez to U.S. justice. [end recording]

Cabinet Voices Support for President Paz Zamora

PY2311110090 La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 2300 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Excerpt] The Cabinet of ministers, through a letter addressed to Luis Ossio Sanjines, ex-officio president of the National Congress and vice president of the Republic, has voiced its support for the constitutional president of the Republic in view of the uncalled-for and inappropriate petition for impeachment presented by deputy Edwin Rodriguez of the Nationalist Revolutionary Movement.

This information was reported by Minister of the Presidency Gustavo Fernandez.

[Begin Fernandez recording] At the end of the Cabinet meeting, the ministers met for a while to discuss and sign a letter we have sent to the vice president of the Republic and president of the National Congress in which we express our full and explicit solidarity with the president of the Republic in view of the uncalled-for and inappropriate petition for impeachment presented to Congress by a Bolivian deputy.

In this letter we state that the president's decision to respect the resolutions of the National Congress and to abide by the Constitution and the laws concerning this charge strengthens his position and reasserts his undeniable desire to serve democracy and Bolivia's interests.

We also state that we are certain that the people support us in rejecting a [word indistinct] political attempt seemingly designed to disrupt the atmosphere of peace that is necessary to fulfill the economic development programs the country and government have implemented. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Justices To Ignore 'Unconstitutional' Suspension

PY2111214490 La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 1100 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Excerpts] The Bolivian Supreme Court justices charged with malfeasance in office have expressed their indignation with Congress' illegal and unconstitutional suspension decree against them. The justices added that they will ignore this arbitrary decision, which is part of the harassment that the judicial branch is experiencing.

Hugo Galindo, the senior justice, said the following:

[Begin Galindo recording] We strongly protest the irregular and despotic manner in which the Chamber of Deputies committee on constitutional and judicial branch affairs handled the trial that resulted in a decree ordering an illegal suspension. [end recording]

Galindo explained that based on the Merida, Spain, case, the Supreme Court will declare the resolution against eight justices, which was approved before dawn yesterday, as unconstitutional. He added: We are awaiting an official notification in this regard before making this decision.

Based on the Merida, Spain, case, any resolution may be declared unconstitutional in order to halt any action by the other branches of government that undermines the stability of the judicial branch or the state of law.

The Supreme Court members, who are awaiting notification of the resolution before assuming their defense—an inalienable right established in the Constitution and Bolivian laws—predicted their defeat at the Chamber of Deputies stating: With or without a defense, the ruling will be the same one that has been passed down and ordered by the chief of the so-called Patriotic Agreement. [passage omitted]

Chief Justice Edgar Oblitas has said that the executive and legislative branches do not realize that as a result of this harassment, the trial against former President Garcia Meza will be halted. The trial has entered its final and definitive stage with the presentation of evidence.

Oblitas added: If this plot seeks to control the three government branches with the ultimate objective of approving questionable laws that allow corruption and immoral activities in public administration, it will be up to the Bolivian people and history to judge the obscure objectives sought by the Patriotic Agreement and give the final veredict.

[Begin Oblitas recording] The specific results are: As of 20 November, the constitutional government that ruled the country ceased to be a constitutional government and became a de facto government. This is because the branch of government that safeguards the state of law in Bolivia was deposed. This is our point of view. We are saddened by what has happened in our country. It is regrettable from any point of view that constitutional

laws have been impugned (?only for current personal or sectoral needs). [end recording]

Chamber of Deputies Resolution 'Illegal'

PY2211151490 La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 2300 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Excerpt] Defense attorney (Marcelo Cardenal Saravia) has reported that the Chamber of Deputies resolution to try eight justices for malfeasance in office has been declared illegal by a unanimous decision of the Supreme Court. The justices also ruled that the members of the Chamber of Deputies who voted for that resolution are guilty of an attack against rights and constitutional guarantees. [passage omitted]

MNR Wants Impeachment of Justices Annulled

PY2111164690 La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 2300 GMT 20 Nov 90

[Text] Nationalist Revolutionary Movement [MNR] Deputy Ernesto Machicado has reported that the MNR has requested the annulment of the resolution passed by the Chamber of Deputies under which the Congress majority approved impeachment proceeding against eight Supreme Court justices.

[Begin Machicado recording, in progress] ... by the first one, in the short term, we requested the annulment of this morning's voting session because the Patriotic Agreement [government coalition] has violated the debate regulations which are foreseen in a national law for the Chamber of Deputies. The Patriotic Agreement has violated the debate law because it has denied some deputies their right to speak and the justices their right to defend themselves. It has also approved a resolution by force because although they had a majority in Congress the Patriotic Agreement has resorted to the use of force to approve the resolution to impeach the justices.

Our first measure is to legally counter this action through a petition of annulment of yesterday's voting session, based on legal justifications. These include the concrete violations of debate regulations and the national Constitution. Second, all the mistakes the Patriotic Agreement is making represent Pyrrhic victories in the short term but failures in the long term. We think that at the end of the day (?this will not harm) us, the United Left, or the Free Bolivia Movement, but the people.

The Patriotic Agreement will soon be judged by the people in the 1993 elections. The Bolivian people will remember each of these mistakes when they vote in 1993. I think that the abusive and outrageous attitudes of the Patriotic Agreement discredits it before the public. We will prepare ourselves to make an excellent administration from 1993 to 1997. We are preparing our best cadres to assume the public posts we want to attain through elections. We are preparing for the elections and we will again govern the country efficiently because Bolivia deserves it. Thus, these are the two aspects of our analysis of this problem. [end recording]

Antidrug Chief Terms Army Cooperation 'Necessary'

PY2211202090 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 13 Nov 90 p 6

[Excerpts] While Interior Minister Guillermo Capobianco is saying that there will not be enough prison space for drug traffickers, the top chief in the drug trafficking war, General Lucio Anez, retired, has acknowledged that direct cooperation from the Army is necessary. [passage omitted]

For the first time, Gen. Anez acknowledged that the more than 648 members of the Special Antinarcotics Force [FELCN] and the Army and Navy task forces need logistical cooperation from a determined Army unit. [passage omitted]

"Yes, I think so; not because the FELCN is not capable of complying with its duty, but because we need more support to arrest the criminals," Gen. Anez said during an interview in the Chapare jungle.

According to some media reports, arrested drug trafficker Carmelo Dominguez Vaca has allegedly revealed that a large part of the drug trafficking business in Bolivia is conducted by a Colombian citizen known as "Danilo" who allegedly lives in San Joaquin, Beni Department.

Challenge to Hydrocarbons Law Affects Oil Policy

PY2211170590 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 11 Nov 90 p 1

[Excerpt] The Nationalist Revolutionary Movement-sponsored challenge of the Hydrocarbons Law before the Supreme Court has seriously affected government oil policies, official sources admitted last night. Firms that had signed contracts or were engaged in consultations expressed their concern to authorities and pointed out that they "could suspend their investments in Bolivia." The situation was confirmed at the Supreme Court in Sucre, where knowledgeable jurists said that it was natural for investors to hesitate in this type of situation because "the validity of the law has been challenged." [passage omitted]

Chile

Military Sources Deny Pinochet Resignation

PY2111204890 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Armed Forces sources have categorically denied the rumor that General Pinochet has tendered his resignation to the president of the Republic. The sources pointed out that all matters related to the Army have to be reported by the Army's Public Relations Department, and anything else is a baseless rumor.

It has also been reported that the Army will release a communique, which has been checked by President Aylwin, with the names of the officers who will make up its high command. This way, the future position of General Carlos Parera, whose promotion to major general was rejected by President Aylwin, will become known.

Air Force Announces New High Command

PY2211235890 Santiago LA SEGUNDA in Spanish 9 Nov 90 p 5

[Summary] The Chilean Air Force, FACh, issued a communique today announcing promotions, retirements, and assignments for Air Force officers, which have been approved by President Patricio Aylwin.

The following aviation colonels have been promoted to the rank of air brigade general: Maximo Venegas Fuentes, Carlos Infante Araneda, Raul Tapia Esdale, and Leonardo Prado Alvarez.

The retirements of the following officers have been approved: Aviation General Caupolican Boisset, Air Brigade General Enrique Fernandez, Air Brigade General Lautaro Greenhill, Air Brigade General Antonio Braghetto, and Air Brigade General Carlos Ottone.

As soon as these changes are implemented, the new membership of the FACh high command will be as follows:

Air Branch:

Air General Fernando Matthei Aubel, commander in chief of the Air Force

Aviation General Ramon Vega Hidalgo, chief of the general staff

Aviation General Fernando Silva Corvalan, Air Force attache to the Chilean Embassy in the United States;

Aviation General Fernando Rojas Vender, commander of the Personnel Command

Aviation General Jorge Iturriaga Moreira, head of the Logistics Command

Air Brigade General Rene Alzerreca de Gortazar, inspector general

Air Brigade General Patricio Araya Ugalde, Air Brigade commander in chief

Air Brigade General Jose de la Fuente Banegas, civilian aeronautics director general

Air Brigade General Jaime Estay Vivero, operations director

Air Brigade General Patricio Cifuentes Trincado, intelligence director

Air Brigade General Guillermo Aird Gajardo, commander in chief of the 3rd Air Brigade

Air Brigade General Maximo Venegas Fuentes, commander in chief of the 2d Air Brigade

Air Brigade General Carlos Infante Araneda, head of the Logistics Command weapons systems

Air Brigade General Raul Tapia Esdale, commander in chief of the 4th Air Brigade

Engineering Branch: Air Brigade General Arthur Clark Flores, head of the Logistics Command Operational Support Division

Air Defense Branch: Air Brigade General Leonardo Prado Alvarez, air defense and telecommunications director

Administration Branch: Air Brigade General Nelson Maturana Teran, administration director

Justice Branch: Air Brigade General Enrique Montero Marx, aviation auditor general

Health Branch: Air Brigade General Jorge Lemus Beytia, Health Department director

Army Names 1991 High Command Members

PY2211003290 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] The Army, in an official communique, has listed the members of the 1991 high command.

The communique states the following generals will remain in their current posts:

Lieutenant General Jorge Lucar Figueroa as deputy army commander, General Luis Serre [1st Army Corps commander], General Jorge Ballerino [head of the Army commander's advisory committee], General Hector Darrigrandi [Army personnel director], and General Joaquin Matte [Army chaplain], among others.

The communique then states that the following officers have been assigned new posts:

Major General Luis Henriquez Riffo, national defense chief of staff;

Major General Rodrigo Sanchez Casillas, Army chief of staff;

Brigadier General Carlos Parera Silva, military attache to South Africa;

Brigadier General Eterio Pavez Munoz, national mobilization director general;

Brigadier General Guido Riquelme Andaur, commander of the 2d Army Division and commander of the Metropolitan Region Army Garrison;

Brigadier General Hernan Ramirez Rurange, Army intelligence director; and

Brigadier General (Ricardo Contreras Fuentes), commander of the Army Telecommunications Department.

The communique also mentions that the requests for retirement submitted by the following officers have been accepted: Major Generals Patricio Gualda, Hugo Salas, and Raul Iturriaga, and Brigadier Generals Gustavo Abarzua, Olvaldo Palacios, and Patricio Varela.

The following brigadiers have been promoted to the rank of major general: Miguel Espinoza Guzman, Hector Darrigrandi Marquez, Guillermo Garin Aguirre, and Richard Quaas Bornscheuer.

Brigadier General Osvaldo Acevedo Trujillo has been appointed commander of the Iquique Army Garrison.

Defense Minister Comments on Army Assignments

PY2211010690 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Report by (Aldo Asmosi)]

[Text] Brigadier General Carlos Parera, current commander of the Santiago Military Garrison, whose promotion to major general was rejected by President Patricio Aylwin, will soon live abroad on a military mission.

This was announced this afternoon by Defense Minister Patricio Rojas after reading a declaration. In the declaration, Rojas also reported the satisfactory conclusion of talks between the government and the office of the Army commander in chief on changes in the Army involving retirements and promotions in the Army high command that were decided by President Aylwin.

As you remember, President Aylwin, exercising the powers bestowed on him, did not approve the promotion of Generals Parera and Ramon Castro Ivanovic. The president deemed it appropriate to withhold the reasons for not approving the promotions.

Minister Rojas was asked if Parera's new assignment was the result of a transaction between the executive branch and the office of the Army commander in chief. This was the defense minister's response:

[Begin Rojas recording] I do not believe it was a transaction. I believe it was a (?decision) involving complete agreement and understanding. This is an example of our wishes concerning management of civilian-military relations (?between) the government and the Armed Forces during this entire transition period. [end recording]

The defense minister also released a communique in which he stated that he expects his compatriots, the leaders and political class, and especially the media, to understand the need to always distinguish between permanent and basic institutions such as our Armed Forces and the forces of order and security, and the actions or responsibilities of individuals that do not involve the institutions. This remark by Minister Rojas seems to be connected to the case of the illegal financial firm La Cutufa in which some high-ranking military leaders are reportedly involved.

Government Pleased With Army Leadership Selection

PY2211192690 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Enrique Correa, minister secretary general of government, has expressed satisfaction with the way the Army leadership was chosen because the president fully exercised his rights and prerogatives.

Minister Correa reported on this morning's cabinet meeting presided over by President Patricio Aylwin in which the government's communications policy was analyzed. The ministers stressed their full support of freedom of the press which, according to Correa, is a key element in the transition. Asked about the composition of the Army leadership, Correa said:

[Begin Correa recording] I think we have found a very good solution. The president exercised all of his prerogatives, and all of his criteria were fully respected. This was all we expected from this process. [end recording]

Rocket Symposium Begins in Santiago

PY2111122690 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 20 Nov 90

[Text] Military Industries chief Fernando Ormazabal has said that the Chilean Military Industries will soon be capable of producing rockets to complement artillery weapons and which are vital for modern Armies. He said this today following the opening of the first Rocket and Missile Symposium which will last three days. The symposium is being held in the Military Geographic Institute with the participation of Army, Navy, and Air Force representatives, and foreign guests.

Ormazabal said that the Ray Project [Projecto Rayo] for building rockets will allow us to optimize our resources and to sell our weapons to other countries in the near future.

Colombia

Guerrillas, Drug Cartels Issue Joint Communique

PA2211190090 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Attention: In Santa Marta, the guerrillas, as well as the Medellin and Cali Cartels issued a joint communique today in which they announced the end to hostilities and the possible release of our kidnapped fellow journalists.

The communique was delivered by the so-called Colombian Revolutionary Union, [Union Revolucionaria de Colombia] Unreco—made up of guerillas and members

of the Medellin and Cali Cartels—to Santa Marta Mayor Jose Ignacio Vives Echeverria.

The new group promised to first release two journalists and then suspend all terrorist actions in our country.

In exchange, the group demanded the postponement of the 9 December elections, the creation of a special district for peace in Santa Marta, and guarantees for their representatives to the talks.

The group also announced the possibility of requesting the mediation of Nobel Literature Laureate Gabriel Garcia Marquez.

Initially, and as a reply, Mayor Vives Echeverria issued Decree 675 today creating the district for peace in Santa Marta, the capital of Magdalena Department.

Government May Investigate Extraditables' Charges

PA2211161490 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1214 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Bogota—Jorge Orlando Melo, presidential adviser for defense, protection, and promotion of human rights, has said that the national government is prepared to appoint an official to investigate the charges made by the so-called Extraditables regarding the violation of the human rights of several of its members. Melo explained that such an official would go to Medellin—if it is established that there are grounds for the charges—so that investigations can be initiated.

The Extraditables have charged that several of them or their relatives have been tortured by the authorities. According to messages sent to the media, the Extraditables allege that they know of a secret plan by state security agencies to kidnap several of their relatives and exchange them for the kidnapped reporters. In their statements, the Extraditables have said that they are holding nine reporters to call attention to their charges and reiterate that the captives are being treated well and are in good health. The chief target of criticism is Colonel Oscar Eduardo Pelaez, chief of the Directorate of Judicial Police and Investigations, who, according to official information, will travel next month to the United States to occupy a diplomatic post. Moreover, relatives of EL TIEMPO Chief Editor Francisco Sanchez Calderon are asking the Extraditables to prove that the reporter is alive.

Attorney General Alfonso Gomez Resigns

PA2211190290 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1754 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] This is a last-minute report: The attorney general of the nation, Alfonso Gomez Mendez, has just resigned. The official said he resigned because the Congress of the Republic has reached a deadlock and has not appointed an ad-hoc attorney for the Arias Cabrales case.

Peru

Kidnapped Labor Leader Ponce de Leon Released

PY2211161890 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0316 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Excerpt] Lima, 21 Nov (EFE)—Segundo Ponce de Leon, secretary general of the Unified Confederation of Peruvian Institute of Social Security [IPSS] Workers, was freed today by the unidentified men who kidnapped him on 19 November. This was reported by Ponce de Leon himself. He has been leading the IPSS workers in their two-week-old strike.

The union leader said that he could not identify his kidnappers but thinks that his abduction could have been connected to the IPSS workers' decision to continue their strike for higher wages.

Ponce de Leon said that on 19 November four people with their faces covered grabbed him from a street in downtown Lima and forced him to lay down in the back of a vehicle as they insulted him and threatened him in an attempt to make him end the strike. [passage omitted]

Armed Forces Called To Guard Hospitals

PY2211024090 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0907 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Lima, 21 Nov (EFE)—According to local political observers, the arm wrestling between the Peruvian Government and striking workers will worsen today with the first dismissals of strikers. Alberto Fujimori's government has asserted its antistrike stance by ordering that, as of today, Wednesday, 21 November, the Armed Forces and National Police guard Peruvian Institute of Social Security (IPSS) hospitals.

Miguel Paz, IPSS defense secretary, said that "the workers know how to struggle" and announced that they have requested a writ of amparo from the Lima civil court against the IPSS leadership's decision to dismiss the strikers. About 47,000 social security workers, which includes 5,000 nurses, have been on strike for the past two weeks, and about 600,000 public servants went on strike one week ago. Last Saturday, the government adopted drastic legal measures against the striking public servants.

The measures adopted by Fujimori's government regulated the right to strike and established that public services cannot be paralyzed. It also adopted sanctions that include the dismissal of those who do not obey the measures. A supreme decree signed by Fujimori, enacted today, declared IPSS services in a state of emergency because "they have been abandoned," which is regarded as "harmful to the life and health of the beneficiaries."

IPSS President Luis Castaneda recalled today that the first dismissals of workers will start today if they do not

resume their activities since the 72-hour deadline granted by the executive board after it declared the strike illegal expired on Tuesday.

Juan Carlos Hurtado Miller, prime minister and economy and finance minister, stated that the government is not going to take a single step back and it will dismiss those workers who continue to protest.

The defense secretary for the IPSS Workers Union Center (CUT) reasserted that the "strike is legal and is guaranteed," that the workers will struggle and "remain calm", and labelled the decree "a desperate move by the government."

Prime Minister Assesses Tax Situation, Reform

PY2111021590 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish
10 Nov 90 p 7

[Text] Juan Carlos Hurtado Miller, prime minister and economy and finance minister, stated yesterday that the new tax reform will eliminate exceptional policies, reduce the number of taxes, and correct the major defects in those that remain in effect.

At a symposium sponsored by the Research, Change, and Development Institute on the 1991 Peruvian budget, he said that the tax situation is serious and must be simplified as soon as possible.

Among urgent measures, he mentioned were the improvement of tax administration and collection, which cannot be postponed, and the insurance that a larger number of people and corporations pay their taxes.

He announced a continuous broadcasting campaign aimed at creating an awareness among the people about paying their taxes. "Those who pay their taxes are not fools. The fools are those who are continuously besieged by the Tax Administration Superintendency and liable to fines," he said.

The prime minister said that one of the main objectives of the tax reform is to collect more than the minimum required to finance the budget. He estimated that next year the tax pressure will be equivalent to 12 percent of the GDP without considering regional or municipal taxes or the contributions of the Peruvian Social Security Institute.

* Paredes Explains Congressional Alliance

91SM0055A Lima CARETAS in Spanish
15 Oct 90 pp 38-41

[Interview with Victor Paredes, Chamber of Deputies president, by Alberto Bonilla; date and place not given—first paragraph is CARETAS introduction]

[Text] Currently in the eye of the storm because of his controversial performance in the tumultuous session of Congress on Wednesday, when President Fujimori was unable to obtain permission [to attend the Rio Group meeting in Caracas], the leader of Change 90 contends that the latest developments are making it mandatory that "something more formal" be put in place "to ensure the functioning of the legislature." For the time being, he says, there are acceptable means of cooperation from the political standpoint that are making it possible to cast off their political virginity and work for the country.

[Bonilla] Would you agree that Change 90 has now reached a congressional alliance with the American Popular Revolutionary Alliance (APRA) in the last few weeks?

[Paredes] As we become familiar with our responsibilities, we become more convinced that to achieve a stable system we must carry out these efforts of coordination that have become increasingly necessary. The latest developments are pointing to the need—indeed, they are making it imperative—to hold talks, not to form a traditional alliance, but to consolidate democracy. It may sound very idealistic and general, but it is the truth. We must create a solid bloc in Congress that will guarantee that legislation gets passed.

[Bonilla] You are obviously doing that with APRA....

[Paredes] It is true that there are agreements on specific items, not ideological or doctrinal agreements, but understandings that are acceptable from a political point of view. We want to cast off our political virginity knowing that it is a means that justifies the end: working for the country.

[Bonilla] Excuse me, but to govern you're going to need a lasting alliance; short-term agreements will not be enough....

[Paredes] That's right. In any case, any agreement we reach with any group will not compromise the objectives that led us to form Change 90; in no way will they be distorted.

[Bonilla] An alliance always demands flexibility of the parties, which may find points of agreement or rapprochement on different objectives, and that appears to have been achieved already....

[Paredes] I would not say emphatically that there is an alliance, but there are some agreements that we will be studying. To the extent that we make any progress, we may put together something more formal later on, something we could announce. Meanwhile, we are facing very special circumstances that are leading us to define a position that will ensure the functioning of the Change 90 administration, not only at the executive level but also the legislative level.

[Bonilla] There is a curious situation in which Change 90 is reaching agreements with APRA in the legislature and with people from Popular Action and the two leftist forces in the executive branch. What do you have to say about this circumstance?

[Paredes] I would say that you are exaggerating. We are not inconsistent. What is happening at the executive level is in keeping with what we pledged during the campaign. It is written down; it is easy to prove. We proposed a period of economic stabilization that would necessarily entail an adjustment and correction. We have not made any promises we could not keep.

[Bonilla] But you said "neither shock nor gradualism," and I don't know if the 8 August adjustment could be called anything other than a shock....

[Paredes] It is a matter of nuance. We must also consider another fact: The harshness of the measures has to do with the situation we have inherited, which far exceeded our projections.

[Bonilla] So what happened on Wednesday, then? Was it a lack of clout, of strength? How do you explain the fact that the legislature did not vote to allow President Fujimori [to attend the Rio Group meeting in Caracas]?

[Paredes] It was not a question of clout or strength. Unfortunately, some people wanted to thwart the meeting. The situation was deliberately set up by the group of opposition congressmen who wanted to censure the executive board. This group did not want to just debate the supplementary credit; it wanted to prevent the president from making the trip. Otherwise, there is no explanation for the fact that after the spokesmen's meeting they demanded that first the motion to censure be considered, then the supplementary credit, and finally the president's trip.

[Bonilla] Excuse me, but no one opposed the president's trip. In fact, there may have been some apprehension about what you might do after the trip was approved, to adjourn the session, for example, to avoid considering the matter of the supplementary credit. There had been the experience of three sessions aborted for lack of a quorum.

[Paredes] There was a tacit commitment. At some point there was even talk of a written commitment to prevent just what you are talking about. In the morning we had agreed that the matter of the supplementary credit would be considered no matter what, even though it had already been promulgated by the executive.

[Bonilla] The legal deadline had supposedly passed in late September. Why did the executive wait so long to promulgate it? That would have made it unnecessary for you to resort three times to the expedient of preventing a quorum.

[Paredes] Of course. When people don't assume certain responsibilities or there are certain fears, these things can happen. Since the minister of economy was not present, his replacement did not want to accept responsibility for the matter, preferring to wait until the minister returned. That was a factor that had an unfortunate impact on the convocations and the possibilities for holding sessions of Congress.

[Bonilla] Nevertheless, Minister Amat, the replacement, expressed his opinion that the deadline for passing the bill is not until the 22nd of this month....

[Paredes] In the first place, we don't accept that opinion because any interpretation of the law is up to the legislature. Any opinion expressed by the minister in his communication does not change the date of receipt, which according to law is 14 August, which means that the deadline was 29 September.

[Bonilla] Let's return to the initial point, please. In the accord that Change 90 is forging with APRA, the latter complains of a certain lack of cooperation on your part. For example, you allowed the appointment of Alan Garcia's archenemy, Fernando Olivera, as chairman of the committee investigating his houses....

[Paredes] In our work in the presidency, we have limited ourselves to respecting the principle of consensus. We wanted to enable all congressional groups to participate in the distribution of responsibilities, including the Moralist Independent Front (FIM). Now, since there were two committees on which the FIM had participated, the one dealing with tapping phones and the one investigating the former president's holdings, we thought it would be appropriate for him to be on the latter one, which is where he had done the most investigating.

[Bonilla] How would the legislature react to a request from former President Garcia that his immunity be lifted?

[Paredes] The Constitution gives the elected congressman a responsibility he cannot shirk, and it gives him a privilege as well. If he asks that this privilege be taken away, Congress must consider the request. Although the former president's request is that he no longer have this privilege, politically speaking it places him in a very prominent position. We must not lose sight of that.

[Bonilla] As the head of the Chamber of Deputies, what is your view of President Fujimori's desire to overpower the legislature?

[Paredes] In the first place, I don't think he has that desire. But at any rate, I should point out that the responsibility for oversight and for passing legislation is an attribute that cannot be wrested from the legislature. Initiatives coming from the executive branch, such as those on decriminalization and the creation of anti-corruption courts, are aimed at dealing with emergencies, not at usurping the role of the legislature. The problem is that we are very sensitive about our powers.

[Bonilla] The judges also feel that they have been trampled....

[Paredes] There has been no trampling; the decree itself states that once the investigation is concluded the matter must be turned over to the judiciary. As long as the current system doesn't work, the executive intends to take immediate action to solve urgent problems.

[Bonilla] As for the decriminalization, it is known that the legislature was processing a bill that had already been passed by the Senate and that was trying to save face for the executive branch....

[Paredes] As I understand it, the executive branch was unaware of the bill ...

[Bonilla] Excuse me, but it was in all the newspapers ...

[Paredes] Well, the bill being drafted in the legislature is one thing, and the decriminalization bill announced in the Change 90 program is quite another. We see it as consistency between what was proposed and what is being done as the quickest solution to the problem, without any desire for confrontation. There are two currents of opinion on that.

[Bonilla] The debate is not over, and some would like to repeal the executive decree.

[Paredes] The legislature has full powers to repeal a decree if it deems it necessary. The matter will be debated—I think that is the function of the legislature—and any decision that is made will have to be obeyed.

[Bonilla] But the adjectives that were hurled at the judicial branch cannot be erased.

[Paredes] Well, I think those positions are unnecessary now. The president has indicated that at no time did anyone intend to insult or put down the judiciary; it was just an expression of the concern we all feel.

[Bonilla] Do you think it is not an insult to call the judges jackals?

[Paredes] The words are harsh, that is true, but there has also been a retraction. The descriptions do not apply to honest judges. What happens is that when we call a spade a spade, sometimes we get too sensitive.

[Bonilla] How do you explain the fact that a decree was promulgated when even Minister Antoniolli came out against it?

[Paredes] I am unaware of the motives behind this apparent contradiction. Especially when a measure to deal with the same problem was already being put together. In any event, when the current bill is passed, it will have priority over the decree, and the problem will finally be solved. This is something we could chalk up to a lack of coordination. We are coming to realize that it is increasingly necessary to have ongoing communication not only between the two chambers, but also between the executive and legislative branches.

[Bonilla] Speaking of coordination, why didn't you attend the meeting between APRA and Change 90 congressmen and the president?

[Paredes] There has been a lot of speculation about this. CARETAS has also indulged in this speculation, saying that I have lost the president's trust. The fact is that I was unable to attend those meetings because they coincided with other commitments and urgent matters.

[Bonilla] More urgent than a coordinating meeting with the president?

[Paredes] Not at all, but there is telephone contact, and the president of the Senate was present to convey the concerns of Congress.

[Bonilla] But you didn't talk to the president by telephone on Thursday, either; it was San Roman.

[Paredes] Well, since I am president of the Congress I had to be in constant communication with the spokesmen. Don't worry, you'll see us together again soon.